



Africatown receives Human Rights Award Mayor Ed Murray signs legislation to honor African American presence in Seattle's Central District

Posted by [Staff](#) / 18 - Aug - 2016

2015 was a productive year for Central District based Africatown Seattle initiatives ending with and Human Rights Award followed by the signing of legislation formally designating the Central Area as an Arts & Cultural District focused honoring, preserving and developing the Black and African Diaspora contributions to Seattle.

A packed house turned out for the XXth Seattle Human Rights Awards at Town Hall Seattle. Kimberly Crenshaw, a scholar in the field of critical race theory and a professor at UCLA School of Law and Columbia Law School was the keynote speaker for the event themed "Black Lives Matter". Africatown was honored for with Community Innovation award. Awards also recognized Youth Undoing Institutionalized Racism, community organizer Mary Flowers, On Point Real Estate and others.

Less than a week later, Mayor Ed Murray signed legislation designating the Central District as the second Cultural Arts District in Seattle following Capitol Hill.

The Central Area is has made enormous contributions to Seattles cultural identity, from the music of Jimi Hendrix and Quincy Jones to the Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute, says Mayor Murray. The neighborhoods arts heritage is felt far beyond our city boundaries. This designation honors our history and nurtures the Central Area arts community for the next generation.

Central Arts District



While Africatown stakeholders are positive about the accomplishments of 2015 there is even more optimism about 2016.

On January 16th The 3rd Annual State of Africatown-Central District will be held at Langston Hughes in Seattle. The event will cover the accomplishment, challenges, opportunities and vision for the coming year. Mayor Ed Murray, Councilman Dow Constantine, Council members and community leaders and stakeholders are scheduled to attend.

Copyright © 2019 africatownseattle.com. All rights reserved.