

A photograph of a violinist in a white shirt and grey trousers playing a violin on stage. He has a bandage on his left forearm. In the background, other orchestra members in white shirts are visible, including a conductor. The scene is set against a warm, orange-toned background.

2018 UP Awards

Boston Landmarks
Orchestra.

Photo credit:
Michael Dwyer



Power of culture



Victoria Marsh

Mass Cultural Council Member

Executive Director World Channel
Outreach Manager and the Senior
Programming Coordinator for WGBH

Children enjoying the
Discovery Treehouse at the
Discovery Museums. Photo
credit: Mitchell Green





Anita Walker

Mass Cultural Council Executive Director

AXIS Dance Company.
Photo credit: David DeSilva



**Celebrating our Universal
Participation Initiative's efforts
to make the cultural treasures
of our Commonwealth
accessible to all.**

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Listen to our Podcast: CreativeMindsOutLoud.org

Panelists

Caitlin Parton

Staff Attorney, Disability Law Center

Heather Watkins

Disability Rights Activist, Blogger

Elbert Joseph

Performer and Teaching Artist

Kim Charlson

President, American Council of the Blind

Dania Jekel

Executive Director of Asperger/Autism Network (AANE)



Nominees

- **American Repertory Theater, Cambridge**
- **ArtsEmerson, Boston**
- **Barrington Stage Company, Pittsfield**
- **Berklee Institute for Arts Education and Special Needs, Boston**
- **Boston by Foot, Boston**
- **Boston Children's Museum, Boston**
- **Boston Landmarks Orchestra, Boston**

Nominees

- **Community Access to the Arts, Great Barrington**
- **deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum, Lincoln**
- **The Discovery Museum, Acton**
- **Fitchburg Art Museum, Fitchburg**
- **Grub Street, Boston**
- **Huntington Theatre Company, Boston**
- **Liars & Believers, Cambridge**
- **Lyric StageCompany of Boston, Boston**

Nominees

- **Massachusetts Audubon Society, Lincoln**
- **Mass MoCA, North Adams**
- **The Mount, Edith Wharton's Home, Lenox**
- **Museum of Fine Arts, Boston**
- **Museum of Science, Boston**
- **Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge**
- **Open Door Theater, Acton**
- **Partners for Youth with Disabilities, Boston**

Nominees

- Paul Revere Memorial Association, Boston
- ReelAbilities Film Festival, Newton
- Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston
- VSA Massachusetts, Boston
- Wheelock Family Theatre, Boston
- Zeiterion Performing Arts Center, New Bedford

Finalist - Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

A legacy of dedication

- Understands 'access' means more than just architecture.
- Committed to providing tours in multiple languages including American Sign.
- Leader in working with patrons who are blind or low-vision.
- Recognizes fiscal barriers and offers a range of discounts and free programs.



Chihuly Element at Chihuly's talk with Perkins teens and others.

Finalist - Museum of Science



Museum of Science educational program. Photo credit: Nicolaus Czarnecki

Commitment to accessible learning

- Globally recognized for developing multi-modal learning environments.
- Designated Employer of Choice.
- A pioneer in accessibility practices.
- Community leaders in authentic engagement.

Santon is an award-winning musician,
an alumnus of
Berklee College
of Music.

Santon Music.



Finalist - Wheelock Family Theatre

True values take center stage

- Recognizes a universal approach to inclusion.
- First adopters of tools to enhance audience engagement.
- Embraces our human diversity and celebrates it.



Wheelock Family Theatre's "Charlotte's Web"



2018 UP Awards

A Feeling For Form
sculpture tour
Photo Credit:
Museum of Fine
Arts, Boston.



Power of culture

Finalist - Open Door Theater



Open Door Theater Peter Pan

A no-frills approach to inclusion

- A vision to be accessible on both sides of the curtain.
- Recognized for their distinctive approach to integrated community building.
- Continued development of audience services.
- All-Volunteer staff exemplifies the power of culture.

Alexander Abdullah. Alumnus of Berklee College of Music.

Santon Music.



Finalist - Boston Landmarks Orchestra



Boston Landmarks Orchestra with One City Choir and ASL interpreters. Photo credit: Michael Dwyer

Symphonic innovation

- Creative thinkers.
- Interprets music through ASL performers and dance.
- Offers programs in Braille, text, voice, and digital formats.
- Always free.

Keynote Speaker: Kerry Thompson



Kerry Thompson watches as Christopher Robinson interprets the feeling of the music using American Sign Language. Photo credit: Herald graphic

Kerry works for the Disability Rights Fund and serves as the Vice Chair for the Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advisory Council. She graduated with an MA from Harvard University.

A black silhouette of a person in a dynamic pose, using a prosthetic arm to hold a tennis racket. The background is a textured, light blue-grey surface. The image is partially obscured by a large orange diagonal shape that covers the right side of the frame.

Congratulations to all 2018 UP Awards Finalists!

Photo credit:
Disability Arts Online

2018 UP Awards Winner: Open Door Theater!



Open Door Theater
Cinderella 2018.

2018 UP Awards Winner: Open Door Theater!



Open Door Theater
Seussical Dress
Rehearsal

A black silhouette of a person in a dynamic pose, using a prosthetic arm to hold a tennis racket. The person is positioned on the left side of the image, with their body angled towards the right. The background is a light, textured grey. A large, solid orange shape overlaps the right side of the image, containing the main text.

Congratulations to all 2018 UP Awards Finalists!

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Disability Arts Online



Thank you

Merci

Gracias

Arigato

Obrigado

Asante



Mass
Cultural
Council

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