

Mayor

Patrick Slayter

City Council

Neysa Hinton, Vice Mayor

Michael Carnacchi

Una Glass

Sarah Glade Gurney



City of Sebastopol

Agenda Report Reviewed by:
City Manager/City Attorney 

City Manager/City Attorney

Larry McLaughlin

City Clerk/Asst. City

Manager

Mary Gourley

Meeting Date:

Meeting of April 3, 2018

To:

Mayor and City Council

From:

Kenyon Webster, Planning Director

Subject:

Annual Peace Wall Honorees

Recommendation:

Accept Nominations

Funding:

Currently Budgeted: ___ Yes ___ No x N/A

The Sebastopol Living Peace Wall is located on City property, at the southeast corner of McKinley Avenue and Petaluma Avenue. The Peace Wall is intended to honor efforts to promote peace.

As approved by the City Council, the persons proposed to be honored on the Peace Wall are required to be reviewed by the City Council, since the Wall is located on public property. As described in the attached submittal, the Sebastopol Living Peace Wall Committee has submitted four names proposed to be inscribed on the Wall:

- Dolores Huerta
- Tui Wilschinsky
- Therese Mughannam
- Daniel Ellsberg

The attached submittal provides information about each proposed honoree.

Attachment: Proposed Peace Wall Honorees

The City of Sebastopol
3/8/18

Att: Kwebster@cityofsebastopol.org

RE: Sebastopol Living Peace Wall
2018 Honorees

The Sebastopol Living Peace Wall Selection Committee was convened on
February 16, 2018.

The committee members present were:

Michael Gillotti, Chairman, Richard Retecki Vice Chairman, Paul Robbins from
the Redwood Friends group, Rev. Judith Stone, Ret., Alice Waco from the Sonoma
County Peace and Justice Center

After a thorough review and discussion of the nominees, the following four persons
were selected to be honored for the year 2018. Upon your approval their names will be
inscribed onto the Living Peace Wall and added to the roll of honorees on the peace
wall web site, www.sebastopolivingpeacewall.com.

Thank you for your consideration and for your support in promoting the cause of peace
and justice by honoring those who have who dedicated their lives to this cause.

1. Dolores Huerta
2. Tui Wilschinsky
3. Therese Mughannam
4. Daniel Ellsberg

BIOS:

1. Dolores Huerta

Born in New Mexico and raised in Stockton California, Dolores credits her later activism
to her mother's gentle, non-violent approach to helping improve the lives of low wage
earners and farm workers. In 1955 she helped Fred Ross start the Stockton Chapter of
the Community Service Organization (CSO), which fought for economic improvements
for Latinos. It was here that she met Cesar Chavez and co-founded a labor group that
eventually became the United Farm Workers (UFW).

In 1965, Huerta directed the UFW's national boycott during the Delano grape strike, taking the plight of the farm workers to the consumers. Committed to Gandhi's nonviolent direct action to bring about change, she led the organization of boycotts advocating for consumer rights. The boycott resulted in the entire California table grape industry signing a three-year collective bargaining agreement with the United Farm Workers in 1970.

Along with farm workers rights she has also worked for women's rights and was named one of the three most important women of the year in 1997 by Ms. magazine. She has also received numerous awards, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Barack Obama in 2012.

2. Dr.Tui Wilschinsky

Born in Brooklyn New York, Tui migrated west in the 60's and engaged in a spiritual quest. This eventually resulted in he becoming a senior mentor of the **Dances of Universal Peace**. He has led dances for over 40 years throughout the U.S. and Europe, including in New Zealand, France, England, Findhorn Scotland. He has led dances while working with Ram Dass, Joanna Macy, Sazaki Roshi, Matthew Fox and many others. He also regularly leads Dances of Universal Peace in Sebastopol.

Tui has a remarkable ability to help people connect with the peace within each of us through music and spiritual dancing and to help increase understanding and respect between different religions and cultures. The universal qualities of music and dance are perfect vehicles to promote the cause of peace and to bridge the gap between peoples and nations. Tui is a beautiful and loved facilitator and teacher, he is a treasure to our community, our very own local Peacemaker in every sense of the word.

3. Therese Mughannam

Born in Jerusalem, Palestine, just before the state of Israel was created, she had to quickly flee Palestine to Jordon in 1948. As Christians, she and her family suffered greatly as minorities. After many years they made their way to the United States, settling in San Francisco. Because of this experience, she knew first hand the plight of the

Palestinian people and has dedicated her life to educating others and working for a peaceful resolution to the Israeli - Palestinian conflict. Over many years she has spoken to multiple audiences in schools, churches and synagogues, and clubs.

By telling her personal story and the stories of many others from her visits to the middle east, she has helped to promote peace through understanding and respect. "Each one of us is a child of God," she states, "every human being is deserving of dignity, respect and human rights".

4. Daniel Ellsberg

A US Marine veteran, a Harvard graduate with a Harvard PhD in economics, Daniel began working as a military analyst in 1964 for Defense Secretary Robert McNamara. In 1967 he contributed to a top secret RAND corporation study of classified document regarding the conduct of the Vietnam War, later called the Pentagon Papers.

Because of his work on these documents he was able to see all the lies and deceptions of the government about the Vietnam War, including that it was not a civil war but a war of aggression by the US and that it was essentially un-winnable. This was contrary to what the American People had been told for years by presidents Johnson and Nixon.

He began to feel strongly that the American people had a right to know the truth, regardless of the consequences to him personally. So he publicly released the classified documents to the press and congress. This action has been largely acknowledge as helping turn public opinion against the war and in shortening its duration.

The Nixon administration went after him with a vengeance. He was charged with the Espionage Act of 1917 and other charges, with a sentence of 115 years. Eventually the charges were dropped when it was learned that Nixon had ordered a break -in to Ellsberg's psychiatrist office to obtain embarrassing material on him as well as an illegal wire tap on his phone.

After the Vietnam era, Daniel continued to work as an anti war activist, appearing at rallies against the Iraq War and the threatened Iran War in recent years. He and the Pentagon Papers have recently been the focus in the recently released film: The Post.