

## Letter from the President

Thank you everyone for the warm send-off into retirement at the end of May. I greatly appreciate the well wishes.

As mentioned in the May 31 memo to staff, I will continue my services as the acting President/CEO beyond May 31 to help with business continuity. So, I am not yet vacating my desk or headed to the golf course as I will be here through July working onsite 3 days a week (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday). And I'll see you at the mid-year All Staff meeting on July 18, so please save the date.

Regarding a new CEO, the board of directors' search committee has been hard at work to secure the next leader to guide the District's future success, and they are now receiving resumes and scheduling interviews.

In this transition period, we can keep the workflow efficient and help you get the approvals or guidance you need. If you require assistance, approvals or signatures, please check with your manager or director; service partners, please contact your VP if time is of the essence and I am out of office. Linda and Jon will be guiding the onsite workflow in my absence. Katie will be helping move questions or needs to the appropriate person.

Thank you all for your tremendous service delivery and teamwork to keep Seattle Convention Center the success that it is!



Jeffrey A. Blosser  
President & CEO



SAVE  
THE  
DATE

**Summer All Staff  
Lunch & Learn**

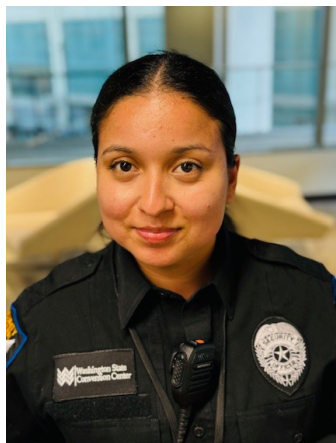
July 18, 2024 | 8am - 1pm  
Summit

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# Celebrating Employees

## Featured Employee | Cindy Alvarez, Security Officer



Security Officer Cindy Alvarez started working at the Center just last February. She brought her wealth of experience, from which she developed problem-solving and customer service skills, a teamwork mentality, and the ability to adapt. She is an LA native and earned her degree in Criminal Justice from California State University Los Angeles. She specialized in Asset Protection at her previous two jobs, at Fred Meyer and Target. Despite the complexities and challenges of being a security officer at SCC, she says it's far less stressful here than in the retail stores. She's happy to be at SCC because she is gaining experience in her chosen field and can live independently.

When it comes to her career, Cindy's top priority is integrity. She prides herself on being reliable and having a solid work ethic. With that foundation, she focuses on her three goals – keeping the building and the guests safe, responding to emergencies, and helping other departments when needed. She enjoys work and likes her fellow

security officers. She also likes her co-workers from other departments and especially the custodians. She finds that everyone is supportive of each other. If anyone needs help, all they have to do is ask.

Cindy has two cats and no children, and loves to support new bakeries and eateries.

## Half-a-Dozen Questions | Sarah Medina, HR Assistant

**Q** If you could live anywhere in the world, where would it be and why?

**A** *Hawaii, so that I could swim in the ocean every day.*

**Q** What's your favorite vehicle?

**A** *1979 Z28 Camaro.*

**Q** What's the one word you would choose to describe yourself?

**A** *High-spirited.*

**Q** What's your favorite food?

**A** *Sushi.*

**Q** What song do you listen to most?

**A** *"You Make Loving Fun" – Fleetwood Mac.*

**Q** Who in your life has influenced you the most? How did they do that?

**A** *Probably my cat; everything in my life revolves around her.*



 *Thanks!*  
**Monthly Prize Winners**

To: Rodney Graviett

Thanks for staying around when I had the flat tire. The laughs trying to keep a stressful moment light were very much appreciated.

From: **Melina Bermudez** 

To: **Ousman Joof** 

Thank you for your amazing teamwork and excellent work with sets, refreshes, and event maintenance during the MS BUILD event.

From: Bek Hassanov


# Event Calendar

EVENT	VENUE	ATTENDANCE	DATES
ABA 2024 Risk and Compliance Conference - American Bankers Association	Arch	1,000	6/8-6/14
PVSC - 2024 52nd IEEE - Photovoltaic Specialists Conference, The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.	Summit	1,200	6/8-6/14
Wekfest Seattle 2024	Arch	2,000	6/8-6/9
MPS World Summit 2024 - Microphysiological Systems	Summit	800	6/9-6/14
CVPR-IEEE 2024 Computer vision and Pattern Recognition Meeting - Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition, The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.	Arch & Summit	7,000	6/15-6/22
Clark Construction Strategic Partnership Program Graduation Lunch	Summit	50	6/20
Varsity Spirit V-Connect	Arch	45	6/21
FCCLA 2024 National Leadership Conference (NLC) - Family, Career and Community Leaders of America	Summit	8,500	6/23-7/3
CloudNativeScurityCon 2024 - The Linux Foundation	Summit	1,000	6/23-6/27
2024 TERMIS World Congress - Tissue Engineering & Regenerative Medicine International Society - Americas	Arch	1,500	6/24-6/28
Microsoft MCAPS Start 2024	Arch & Summit	6,000	7/3-7/12



## Thanks!

### Monthly Prize Winners

To: **Antu Tufa** 


Thank you for your amazing teamwork and excellent work with sets, refreshes, and event maintenance during the MS BUILD event.

From: Bek Hassanov

To: **Kamilia Chadli** 

Great job arranging a mold test for Crew's Inn and coordinating with the contractor for a successful outcome! Crew's Inn is safe and we know for certain!

From: Earl Taylor

To: **Jordan Frost** 

Helping with ARVO's Monday Award Session crowd management. Our client greatly appreciated your help.

From: Michael McQuade

# My Privilege: The Story of Our Thanks! Recognition Program

Mary Clare Kersten

Many staff members don't know what happens once a Thanks! Recognition is delivered. Everyone knows the top white copy, which is handwritten, is given to the recipient; the yellow carbon copy generally gets put in the black or gray boxes or gets placed on my desk. For most of us, the next part of the process is a mystery.

Here's what happens.... I collect the yellow copies in a stack. Then I open an Access database and enter everything written on each recognition – the recipient's name, the submitter's name, and the content. Once I enter all the recognitions I print them onto sheets of cards, tear and fold each card individually, and put them all into a basket.

Data entry such as this is usually boring and menial, but not when it involves the recognition program. For me, this is my favorite part of the job. I have come to see each recognition as a *mitzvah*, the Hebrew word for “a good deed.” As I work my way through the stack, *mitzvah after mitzvah* fills me with purejoy. I love reading about all of you. Your care and attention for others moves me. Your willingness “to go the extra mile” is exemplary. Your initiative keeps our collective efforts moving forward. Your teamwork binds us all together. Your willingness to do your job well – even under difficult circumstances – sets our staff apart from others.

Around 2018 I became frustrated by the fact that I was the only one who read every single recognition; up until that time, the only recognitions that were read were the ones that were picked from the basket during the drawing. The information is so valuable I decided to share some of it. Every month, when I'm finished entering all the data, I pull out 8-10 recognitions that strike a chord in my heart. Then I write a memo called “Impactful Thanks!” and I pass it to Linda Willanger, who oversees the drawing. During the Directors Meeting, Linda shares these Impactful Thanks! with the other directors and they talk about them. Management knows about and cares about your meaningful efforts.

I have come to see the Thanks! recognitions as integral to how we operate. Every one of us has the opportunity to let someone else know they are valued. From time to time, we receive that message, telling us that we are valued. Our exchanges feed our souls. Directors, who learn of these *mitzvahs*, feel supported by all of you.

When your Thanks! recognition is picked during the drawing and you receive a note from Linda, you can believe every word of thanks written in that note. The appreciation and recognition are genuine. We're all in this effort together, and for that, we all give Thanks! for our collective efforts.



To: **Almaz Wolde** 🏆

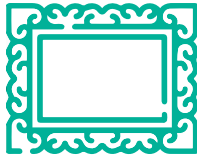
Thank you for your amazing teamwork and excellent event maintenance during the MS BUILD event.

From: Bek Hassanov

To: **Elizabeth Hall** 🏆

Assistance in evaluating the accounting and processes for ORCA cards.

From: Renee Wasisco



## Art's Community Collaboration

Two recent art acquisitions for Summit, white ink drawings on black clayboard by Mary Ann Peters, have been removed from the building to be part of a temporary exhibit at the Frye Art Museum. Formerly displayed on Level 3 of Summit, near the Olive-side elevators, the drawings are on loan for an exhibit called “Mary Ann Peters: the edge becomes the center,” running from June 15 – January 5th. These two drawings are part of a series of 10, and all 10 will be displayed together for the first time. We are happy to be able to share part of our collection with a nearby Seattle museum.

And fear not, no art wall will be left intentionally blank. Where the Mary Ann Peters works formally hung, you can now view one of SCC Art Foundation's recent acquisitions, a painting called *Rain Forest with Bear*, by Gaylen Hansen. Born in 1921, with a career spanning more than 80 years, Gaylen Hansen is known as a neo-expressionist figurative painter who frequently features the flora and fauna of the Palouse of eastern Washington. *Rain Forest with Bear* distinctly depicts western Washington, with a bear blending in with the flora and boulders of the forest and Puget Sound and spouting whales in the background. The artist is 103 and currently lives on Whidbey Island.



*Rain Forest With Bear* by Gaylen Hansen, now on Summit Level 3 near the Olive-side elevators.



Scan this QR code to go to <https://hub.catalogit.app/11425/folder/eb1b49c0-3c6d-11ee-8ef6-353f9b72fac8> to view a library of art at Seattle Convention Center in Arch and Summit.



# Seattle Day of Service

## SCC Participates in One Seattle Day of Service

On Saturday, May 18, Emily Hoyt, Curt Davis, and Linda Willanger participated in Mayor Harrell's One Seattle Day of Service, a day of volunteerism in the community. The SCC volunteers, joined by a group of Visit Seattle staff, cleaned and beautified the downtown convention core, including the crosswalks between SCC buildings and surrounding hotels. Thanks for volunteering part of your weekend, Emily, Curt, and Linda!



Curt Davis, Emily Hoyt, and Linda Willanger ready to volunteer on May 18.

## Client Compliments



*Always appreciate the attentiveness at the SCC and they work well with knowing we are a similar non-profit and help us save where we can. That is very much appreciated.*

Client eval: Northwest Council for Computer Education



*Summit building + the staff were great, thanks.*

Client eval: TradeDesk Palooza



*James Cadungug was great and took care of everything that we needed. The rest of the team was very helpful too.*

*Good and responsive staff.*

Client eval: HEA Session, Local Initiatives Support Corporation



*My WSDA client was over the moon about this year's PNDC conference at the Summit. We sold out the exhibit hall at 155 exhibitors, the most in history of this conference. Happy attendees, happy clients, and filled our room blocks. Back next year and just finished the contract with Pei-Hau for 2026.*

Carol Riddle  
Pacific Northwest Dental Conference

# Orca Card Changes

SCC rolled out an updated Commute Pass Program on June 1, 2024. The paper voucher process was retired, and a fully online process replaced it. The digital system will make it easier for everyone to participate in the Program.

Eligibility requirements are not changing, and the subsidy percentage (75% of the pass value) remains the same.

Please review the full update to the Program to learn more and how to participate.



## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q:** Can I use an existing ORCA account/card that I have already?

**A:** No. SCC is the primary account holder and will issue you a card to participate in the program.

**Q:** Do I need to register or link the SCC issued ORCA card to my account?

**A:** No, you do not need to register the ORCA card to your account, but it is recommended that you do. You can register the card to your account as a secondary owner, which allows you to see information, add funds, and purchase passes.

**Q:** I have a reduced fare ORCA card; will I have access to that fare with the issued ORCA card?

**A:** Yes, if you have a Regional Reduced Fare Permit (RRFP) or ORCA LIFT you can link the issued card to your account and the proper fare will be charged. The only way to continue paying a reduced fare using an SCC-provided ORCA card is by linking that card to your account.

**Q:** Can I add funds or passes to the issued ORCA card?

**A:** Yes, you can add funds or passes after registering the ORCA card with your account.

**Q:** How do I get a refund from the ORCA card if I put too much on it?

**A:** All refunds must be processed through SCC, and only funds you added will be available for a refund. Contact the Payroll Accountant for refund requests. Refunds generally have a \$10 processing fee.



## Thanks! Monthly Prize Winners

To: **Jesus Perez** 🏆

Thank you for your excellent work during the BUILD event.

From: Bek Hassanov

To: Leah Delasse

Making sure our Security Team is set up with quality candidates for interviews. You've been an amazing asset to the HR team. Always great working with you.

From: **Rodney Graviett** 🏆

To: **Lem Lem Shenkute** 🏆

Thanks for your exemplary performance, effective teamwork, and operational efficiency during MS BUILD.

From: Bek Hassanov

# Vehicle safety reminders for loading dock and set-up

As the season gets busier, so do the dock and event spaces in our Arch and Summit locations. Please keep safety protocols and tips in mind while navigating the loading dock and other areas with vehicles.

## Trucks and blind spots

CDL (Commercial Driver's License) vehicles have right-of way to and from loading docks, and can have wide blind spots, such as the front driver-side mirror with an approximately 20 foot blind spot. The same blind spot exists for many active PIT (Powered Industrial Truck) vehicles you see on event days during both load-in and load-out.

If you are near vehicles, please walk close to the wall to give yourself space and make sure you are not in the truck's blind spot. Make eye contact with the driver, if possible, and pay attention to any instructions from the Transportation Attendant on duty regarding what is happening around you.

## General reminder

Safety is paramount, and you should not be on your cell phone or using headphones/earphones while on the work floor, walking near active vehicles on the loading dock, or anywhere load-in/load-out takes place.

## Forklifts

When walking behind an active forklift, the words you should use as you make eye contact with the driver are "Stop" and/or "Walking behind." Otherwise, let them finish their tasks and then proceed.

## Scissor lifts

It is critical to be aware of what is happening above you at all times. During load-in and load-out, Genie scissor lifts may be actively running. A scissor lift's maximum height can reach from 19 feet to 50 feet, and per OSHA guidelines, no one should be working or walking either near or under these vehicles without a hard hat. The closest any individual without PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) should be to a scissor lift is 20 feet.

## No active PITs

PITS should not be operational during events unless the area is coned off and/or pedestrians are redirected by stagehands working in these areas with the approval of the SCC Event Manager.

If you see any violations of these practices during event/show days, please report this immediately to your Crew Chief, Supervisor, Security, or Event Manager.

