

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 3, 2023



**Media Contact:**

Tim Butler, Marketing and Communications Director

253.284.4732

tbutler@museumofglass.org

## **MUSEUM OF GLASS CELEBRATES INNOVATIVE EXHIBITIONS AT ANNUAL RED HOT AUCTION & GALA**



**TACOMA, WA.** — On Saturday, September 30, Museum of Glass welcomed nearly 200 guests at their Red Hot Auction & Gala in celebration of glass and glassmaking. The evening was a sold-out gathering in support of the Museum, **raising \$700,000 for Museum of Glass exhibitions and programming.**

Museum of Glass is proud to offer an immersive experience with the glass artform. While many visitors first associate the Museum with its Hot Shop, where guests learn about the glassmaking process and see glass history made in real time, Red Hot 2023 focused on another vital component of the Museum's impact – the incredible work that goes on in its galleries.

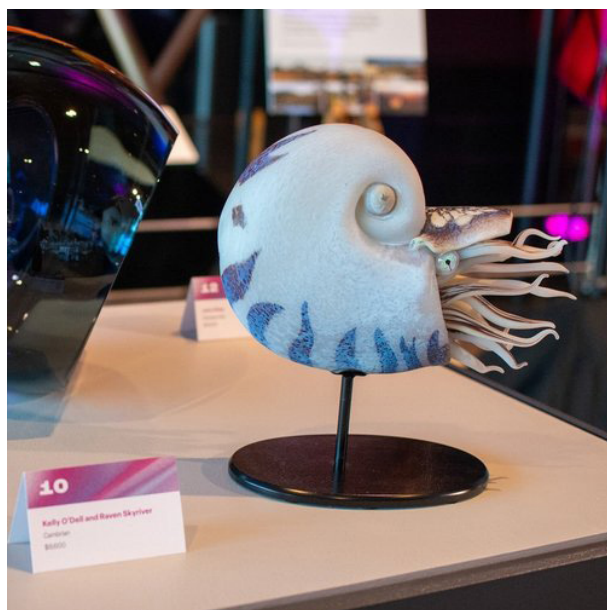
Executive Director Debbie Lenk commented on the evening's importance.

“Our 2023 Auction and Gala was an unforgettable celebration in support of MOG and glass artists. Over the last two decades, we have earned a reputation for creating impactful exhibitions that present the full spectrum of the glass community – amplifying the diverse voices, experiences, and identities of the artists. We thank our sponsors and donating artists who supported us this evening and to all those who help ensure MOG shapes the future of glass.”

Guests were treated to sneak peeks of upcoming exhibitions, including *A Two-Way Mirror: Double Consciousness in Contemporary Glass by Black Artists*, which gives voice to Black artists in glass and introduces vital conversations about glass and who makes it; and *The Salmon School*, which uses art to drive awareness about the diminished state of our climate and environment.

Other highlights of the evening included the Live and Silent Auctions, which featured works by 49 glass artists, including Lino Tagliapietra, Preston Singletary, John Kiley, and Nancy Callan. Additionally, the Museum Hot Shop Team produced signature goblets and decanters for the event – a rosy design with a subtle sparkle, symbolic of the Museum's excitement for the future.

The Museum also continued a Red Hot tradition: the annual Coney Awards, which were created to celebrate the artists who donate their work to the event's auction. Museum of Glass honored three glass artists with Coney Awards during the evening. The People's Choice Award went to **Beccy Feather**, while **Kelly O'Dell and Raven Skyriver** took home the Artist's Choice Award. Grand Prize went to **Preston Singletary** for his piece *Tlingit Basket*. All artists will receive a one-week residency in the Museum of Glass Hot Shop. Guest Jurors for the Grand Prize Award were Natalie Eschenbaum, Dean of the School of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences at University of Washington, Tacoma; Trenton Quiocho, Tacoma-based artist, instructor at Hilltop Artists, and contestant on the Netflix series *Blown Away*; and Sandra Ainsley, owner of the Sandra Ainsley Gallery in Toronto, one of North America's leading contemporary glass galleries.



**Grand Prize:** Preston Singletary for *Tlingit Basket*  
**Artist's Choice:** Kelly O'Dell and Raven Skyriver for *Cambrian*  
**People's Choice:** Beccy Feather for *Candelooper*

“I am extremely grateful to all who made last night’s luminous Red Hot 2023 such a success, including all of the fantastic artists who contributed work to our auction. Because of their passion and support, Museum of Glass can continue enriching lives through glass in landmark exhibitions, our Hot Shop, and beyond,” said Event Director Lindsay Carlisle.

The evening concluded with an after party in the Museum’s Hot Shop with the Red Hot 2023 Featured Artist Katherine Gray, who recently completed her fourth season as Resident Evaluator on *Blown Away*. Gray created one of her signature bowl forms, which was auctioned live off the pipe.

## ABOUT MUSEUM OF GLASS

Located in Tacoma, Washington, Museum of Glass is a premier contemporary art museum dedicated to glass and glassmaking with the West Coast’s largest and most active museum glass studio. Opened in 2002, the Museum has established a reputation for hosting impactful and engaging artist residencies, organizing nationally traveling exhibitions, and creating unique programs for visitors while building a growing permanent collection chronicling the development of modern and contemporary glass. Museum of Glass provides an environment for artists and the public to ignite creativity, fuel discovery, and enrich their lives through glass and glassmaking.

## QUICK FACTS

- Museum of Glass has displayed over 140 exhibitions since 2002, featuring glass art pioneers such as Dale Chihuly, Lino Tagliapietra, and Preston Singletary.
- Over 100,000 visitors explore the Museum each year.
- The Hot Shop hosts over 35 Visiting Artist Residencies each year.
- The Museum has engaged over 200,000 children through educational programs.
- 750 soldiers and veterans have been served through the Hot Shop Heroes program. More about Hot Shop Heroes can be found [here](#).

**Address:** 1801 Dock Street, Tacoma, WA 98402

**Hours:** 10am-5pm, Wednesday - Sunday. Third Thursday of every month, 5am-8pm, free admission

**Admission:** \$20 - Adults; \$18 - Seniors (65+)/College Students (18+)/Military (Active and Veteran); \$12 - Children (6-18); Free - Children (under 6); Free - Museum Members; \$1/person; \$2/family - EBT Cardholders

