

https://www.theoutlookonline.com/news/gresham-environmentalist-honored-for-heart-of-gold/article_80e78f62-84b8-11ee-bce3-6719e8e91623.html

Gresham environmentalist honored for ‘heart of gold’

Christopher Keizur
Nov 20, 2023

A nephew of the famed creator of the prestigious Nobel Peace Prize has received an honor of his own, recognizing his work to protect the environment and celebrate those doing green projects across the globe.

Marcus Nobel, director of the Gresham-based nonprofit United Earth and the Amazonian Award, will receive the Wholistic Peace Institute’s Heart of Gold Award during a presentation in early December. That award is given to those who dedicate themselves to doing good with “a clear vision, steadfast spirit, open and compassionate heart, and a sparkle of hope for the future.” Past recipients include Harold and Arlene Schnitzer; Arun Gandhi, great grandson of Mahatma Gandhi; and Ed Kawasaki, a Hiroshima bombing survivor.



Marcus Nobel

Courtesy photo: Wholistic Peace Institute

“Marcus used his celebrity to place value on connecting people, and trying to understand and learn from differences and lifting up (through) areas of common ground,” said Nancy Spanovich, Wholistic Peace Institute’s director. “Marcus, and his now deceased father Claes, have been partners in bringing the work of Nobel Peace Prize winners into the consciousness of students.”

“Marcus is patient and sincere, generous and thoughtful,” Spanovich added.

Marcus Nobel is the great nephew of Alfred Nobel, creator of the prestigious Nobel Peace Prize. Marcus has catalyzed his own environmental movement with a new iteration of the honor — the Amazonian Award, which was first presented this year in Manaus, Brazil.

With the Heart of Gold Award, he is celebrated for his work in protecting rainforests, oceans and animal habitats across the globe, while shining a light on others with a similarly green mindset. The ceremony will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, in Tualatin.

The Wholistic Peace Institute is a peacemaking center based in Clackamas County. Its mission is to share and celebrate the wisdom of Nobel Peace Prize laureates. The group sponsors peace forums and summits.

Christopher Keizur is a reporter based in Gresham, Ore.