



MYRTLE WOLDSON
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

AT GONZAGA UNIVERSITY

2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT



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This Annual Report chronicles the achievements and impact of the Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center's programs and those of the resident academic departments and the people who embody them.

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Mission and Introduction





Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center Mission

Entertain – Engage – Inspire

The Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center dually serves as a laboratory for the performing arts — hosting space for students to explore and hone their craft — and as an entertainment venue for Spokane audiences to engage with performing artists of the highest quality in spaces that are inclusive and welcoming.



Introduction

24,651*

Combined 2024-25
Attendance



In 2024-25 the Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center hit its stride, presenting the first full season of touring events with a full complement of academic performances since opening in 2019. Overall and per event attendance grew with the Center welcoming over 24,000 guests compared to 18,173 in 2023-24.

The Myrtle Woldson Presents series welcomed luminary artists and companies including Dee Dee Bridgewater, Jazz at Lincoln Center, and Alonzo King LINES Ballet. The students and faculty of Gonzaga's Music, Dance, and Theatre departments showcased their extraordinary creativity and talent presenting concerts and performance evenings. Memorable moments included Music's second ever Gala featuring performances from all major ensembles. Gonzaga Dance celebrated the programs 25th anniversary with two festive performances hosting great crowds including 66 Gonzaga Dance Alums. Finally, the Theatre Department mounted four full productions including the Coughlin Theatre run of Moliere's Tartuffe which had a special performance for area middle and high school students.

The Center is quickly becoming the venue of choice for many of Spokane's cultural organizations. In 2024-25 the Center hosted space for Spokesman Review – Northwest Passages, Spokane International Film Festival, The Black Lens, KSPS-PBS Presents, Jess Roskelley Foundation, and MusicFest Northwest. And next year, in addition to the community partners listed above, the Myrtle Woldson Center will welcome Spokane Jazz Orchestra, TEDx Spokane, and the Spokane Arts Awards.

*Does not include attendance numbers for some non-ticketed and free events.

Myrtle Woldson Center Presents Series



Season Summary

11 | 16

Events | Performances
in the Coughlin Theater

4,745

Attendance

\$117,981

Gross Revenue

1,900

Low Cost / No Cost Tickets*

* Includes free and discounted tickets to community partners and under-resourced audiences as well as \$15 student tickets for Gonzaga Students and any Spokane area student with an ID.



Myrtle Woldson Presents Series 24/25 Season

Performances

Dee Dee Bridgewater and Bill Charlap – September 22

BODYTRAFFIC – October 19*

Campana Sobre Campana: Christmas in Mexico! December 14 and 15

Jazz at Lincoln Center Presents: New Orleans Songbook – January 22

ODC Dance: Mixed Rep – January 31*

ODC Dance: The Velveteen Rabbit – February 1, 2, and 3*

Meow Meow – February 23

Delfeayo Marsalis and the Uptown Jazz Orchestra – March 5

123 Andrès – March 21 and 22

Alonzo King LINES Ballet – March 29*

Actors From The London Stage – April 5

*Presenting Partner

Gonzaga Dance



Alonzo King LINES Ballet



Myrtle Woldson Presents Series 24/25 Season

Engagement and Improvement

- The Myrtle Woldson Center provided access to the arts through low cost and no cost tickets and partnerships with community organizations including Manzanita House, Gonzaga Haven House, Latinos en Spokane, Imagine Jazz, Spokane All-City Jazz, and Gonzaga's Office of Community Engagement.
- During a week-long residency, ODC Dance from San Francisco performed an evening of Mixed Rep and mounted their production of *The Velveteen Rabbit*. ODC's Artistic Director Brenda Way set a piece on Gonzaga Dance students earlier in the academic year and invited those students to perform as part of ODC's evening of Mixed Rep. The ODC family production of *The Velveteen Rabbit* featured ten community dancers ages 8 to 14 from several local dance studios for three performances. The Center also hosted students from Garfield, Logan, and Stevens Elementary Schools for a no-cost performance of *The Velveteen Rabbit*.
- Dance companies BODYTRAFFIC from Los Angeles and Alonzo King LINES Ballet from San Francisco provided master classes for Gonzaga Dance students and community dancers.
- A five-day residency with the cast from the Actors From The London Stage production of *Hamlet* included workshops with Gonzaga students in Theatre, English, and Law classes as well as two days with theatre students at Lewis and Clark High School.
- Middle school and high school musicians with Spokane All-City Jazz, Rachel Bade-McMurphy, Director gave pre-concert, lobby performances before the Jazz at Lincoln Center and Delfeayo Marsalis and the Uptown Jazz Orchestra performances.
- With sponsor Sodexo, the Myrtle Woldson Center upgraded our bar and concessions infrastructure and service.
- Expanded patron service and ticketing support for Theatre and Dance events at the Magnuson Theatre.

Myrtle Woldson Center Presents Series 24/25 Season

Presenting Partners and Sponsors



Media Partners



Gonzaga Theatre



Leslie Stamoolis, Chair

Summary of Academic Year

18

Performances

Events hosted in the Coughlin Theater
and Magnuson Theatre

1,408

Attendance

226

Students Participating*

260

Fall/Spring Enrollment*

*Numbers for both students enrolled in classes and those participating in productions/concerts do not count unique students, but rather the total number of students in all classroom and performance spaces.





Gonzaga Theatre

Productions

***The One And Only Sarah Stonely* – October 4-6**

By Blake Anthony Edwards

***Tartuffe* – November 7-10**

By Molière

***I Wish My Ma Could Vote: An Evening of Historical Women's Suffrage Plays to Celebrate 105 Years Since Women's Suffrage* – February 6-7**

By Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Maria Jenney Howe, Gertrude Jennings, and others.

***Stupid F**king Bird* – March 21-30**

by Aaron Posner

Boone Street Hooligans, Comedy Improv – 3 performances October/ February/ March



Gonzaga Theatre

Academic Year Highlights

- Gonzaga Theatre featured a TYA production of the original play *The One and Only Sarah Stonely* for Fall Family Weekend, continuing our focus on Theatre for Young Audiences to engage audience members of all ages.
- We hosted an educational matinee at the Coughlin Theatre of Moliere's *Tartuffe* for local middle and high school students.
- Our annual Seattle Trek, a partnership with the Careers and Professional Development office, took students to Seattle Repertory Theatre, Taproot Theatre, and Seattle Opera, where we toured facilities and learned about early career opportunities in the performing arts of Seattle.
- The annual staged reading this year, called *I Wish Ma Could Vote*, featured British and American women's suffrage plays ranging from 1856 to 1913. The cast was honored to be asked to join the Spokane chapter of the League of Women Voters at their 75th Anniversary Gala with a performance from the evening of historical plays.
- Gonzaga Theatre seniors presented their creative inquiry projects at the Spokane Intercollegiate Research Conference in May, representing the performing arts in the annual city-wide conference.
- Gonzaga Theatre hosted our first-ever Alumni Homecoming in March, welcoming alums back to campus to meet current students, learn about today's Gonzaga Theatre, and sign the alumni wall in Magnuson Theatre. They also joined us for a performance of *Stupid F***ing Bird*, our spring production.

Gonzaga Dance



Suzanne Ostersmith, Chair

Summary of Academic Year

13

Performances

Events hosted in the Coughlin Theater
Magnuson Theatre

2,965

Attendance

346

Students Participating*

416

Fall/Spring Enrollment*

*Numbers for both students enrolled in classes and those participating in productions/concerts do not count unique students, but rather the total number of students in all classrooms and performance spaces.



Gonzaga Dance

Productions

Dance Season Opener featuring Ishita Milli and IMGE Dance – September 21

60x60 – October 4

Student Choreography Showcase – December 5-6

Musical Theater Dance Revue – January 24-25

5th Annual Celebrate EveryBODY Screendance Film Festival – February 12

Student Choreography Showcase – April 11- 12

Zag Dance – April 24

Spring Dance Concert – April 25-26

Senior Showcase – May 9





Gonzaga Dance

Academic Year Highlights

- Guest artist residency with Ishita Milli and IMGE Dance from NYC resulting in public concert as Season Opener for Gonzaga Dance.
- Presenting Partners with Myrtle Woldson Performing Art Center for Body Traffic, ODC, and Alonzo King LINES professional dance companies.
- Hosted the ODC company residency where they set an original work on a student company. The company performed with ODC on stage, toured the work to local dance studios and represented Gonzaga Dance during GEL weekend.
- Successful hiring of a new tenure track faculty.
- Students and faculty attended the American College Dance Association conference and presented work for professional adjudication.
- Ballet Alliance National Festival participation through performance, teaching, and recruitment for perspective students.
- ZagDance Program hosted over 70 4th and 5th graders from local elementary schools for creative movement classes after school.
- Dance for Parkinson's program held weekly classes taught by professionals in partnership with the Northwest Parkinson's Foundation. Dance students serve as volunteers to the program.
- Collaborations: Gonzaga University including New Student and Family Programs, Center for Community Engagement, Living Learning Community, International Clubs, Theatre, Music, Biology, First Year Seminar, and Institute for Climate, Water, and the Environment. Regionally through Northwest Parkinson's Foundation, Spokane Public Schools, Salish School, local dance studios, Spokane Civic Theatre and Seattle International Dance Festival.
- The program celebrated its 25th Anniversary with an Alumni Weekend that saw over 60 dance alumni returning to campus and resulted in media coverage from Gonzaga Magazine, Inlander, and KREM.
- Department Chair received the President's Award of Distinction at Commencement.

Gonzaga Music



Peter Hamlin, Chair

Summary of Academic Year

15 | 16

Concerts Recitals

Events hosted in the Coughlin Theater

5,308

Attendance

861

Students Participating*

2,008

Fall/Spring Enrollment*

*Numbers for both students enrolled in classes and those participating in productions/concerts do not count unique students, but rather the total number of students in all classroom and performance spaces.



Gonzaga Music

Concerts and Recitals

Ensembles – Coughlin Theater

Choir Family Weekend Concert: "The Beloved" – October 7

Gonzaga Symphony Orchestra featuring Dawn Wolski – October 14

Jazz Fall Sampler Concert – Oct 17

Wind Ensemble Concert: "The Storyteller" – November 23

Gonzaga Symphony Orchestra featuring Itmar Zorman, violin – November 25

Gonzaga Choirs and Gonzaga Jazz: "Candlelight Christmas" – December 7-8

Gonzaga Symphony Orchestra featuring Steven Isserlis, cello – February 18

Wind Ensemble Concert: "Themes and Motifs" – February 21

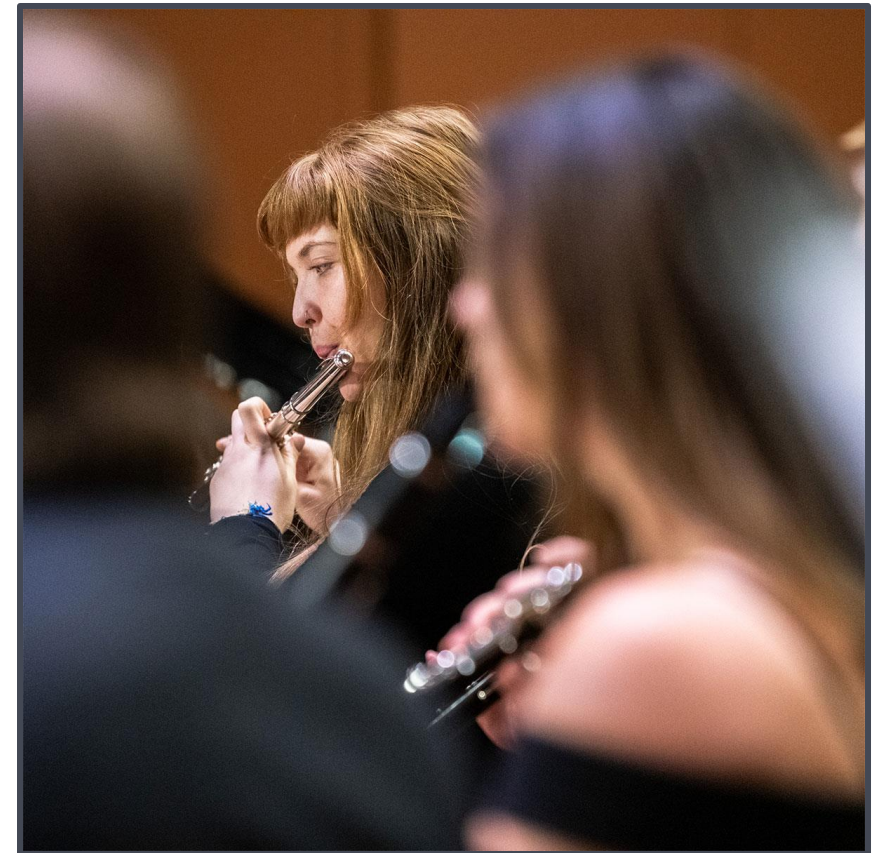
Jazz Winter Fusion Concert – February 28

Gonzaga Music Gala - April 12

Gonzaga Symphony Orchestra featuring Yoon-Wah Roh - April 28

Wind Ensemble Concert – April 30

Gonzaga Choirs: "Choral Celebration – May 4



Recitals – Woldson Recital Hall

16 Student Voice, Instrumental, Faculty, and
Composition/ Emerging Artist Recitals



Gonzaga Music

Academic Year Highlights

- The Music Department organized and hosted multiple outreach and recruitment initiatives, including the annual High School Leadership Academy, High School Choral Invitational, and tours by Concert Choir, Musea Treble Choir, Glee Club, and Big Bing Theory—engaging over 1,200 high school and middle school students across Washington, Idaho, and Montana.
- Faculty and students partnered with local organizations and venues such as Touchmark Retirement Community, Eastern State Hospital, local churches and schools, and United Black Voices of Spokane, presenting music that fostered connection, well-being, and belonging in the broader community.
- Collaborated with Theatre and Dance to support student-led creative projects and co-curricular performances, including Den After Dark, the Dance 60x60 Project, and the development of Gonzaga's first musical theatre minor.
- Hosted regional and national music events and festivals including MusicFest Northwest and provided leadership, adjudication, and clinics for regional music education associations and schools throughout the Pacific Northwest.
- Welcomed renowned guest artists and composers including Steven Isserlis and Itamar Zorman, providing students with opportunities to engage in premieres, masterclasses, and interdisciplinary workshops.
- Faculty led major performances and premieres at national venues such as the College Band Directors National Association Conference and the Northwest Conference of the National Association for Music Education and curated concerts on social justice, sacred music, and Black musical heritage in collaboration with academic and community partners.
- Music students continued to shine as performers and leaders, organizing recitals, recording projects, ensemble tours, and participating in interdisciplinary initiatives that connected the university with regional communities through music.

Community Cultural Partners and Gonzaga Hosted Events



Season Summary

18

Events

4,508

Attendance

Our guests' events weave themselves into the tapestry of the Myrtle Woldson Center's mission to Educate – Entertain – Inspire. The Myrtle Woldson Center staff are honored that so many local cultural organizations have chosen to host their events at the Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center. In addition, the Center annually welcomes an array of speakers, films, and performances hosted by our Gonzaga campus partners.



Community Cultural Partners

Spokesman Review - Northwest Passages:

Steve Gleason – August 4

Senatorial and Congressional Debates – October 18

Charles Apple – November 17

The Black Lens Newspaper:

Paul Oden – August 15

Resian's Dream Against All Odds a documentary film – November 16

The Right to Read a documentary film – January 7

Spokane Black Voices – February 10

Jess Roskelley Foundation Presents Telluride Mountainfilm Festival – September 26

KSPS – PBS Presents Quiero Flamenco – January 10

Spokane International Film Festival (SpIFF) – March 7

MusicFest Northwest – May 12-17

In addition to these Non-Profits, the Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center rents performance space to several area dance studios and to private schools for their recitals and end of year events.



Gonzaga Hosted Events

Office of the President and University Advancement: Ben Joyce Documentary Film – September 7

School of Business Aram Lecture: President Thayne McCulloh – October 22

Office of the President and the Provost: *No Place to Grow Old: A Humans For Housing Film* – November 14

School of Leadership and Office of Mission and Ministry: *The Garment of Praise* by Kevin Waters S.J. – February 7

UMEC University Multicultural Engagement Center: Diversity Monologues– March 18

UMEC: African American Graduation - May 3

School of Education: Counseling Masters Hooding Ceremony – May 10

**Myrtle Woldson
Performing Arts Center
2024-25 Financials & Staffing**



2024/2025 Financials

Funding/ Revenue	
Institutional Support Personnel (includes benefits)	\$636,603
Institutional Support Operations (Fund 1000)	\$60,000
Additional Institutional Support	\$218,601
Ticket Revenue	\$131,131
Rental Revenue	\$34,660
Misc Revenue including Merchandise	\$14,494
MWPAC Renewal and Replacement Endowment Fund	\$197,089
Total Funding and Revenue	\$1,299,578

Expenses	
Personnel	\$636,603
Artist Fees	\$229,000
Artist Hotel, Hospitality, Travel	\$64,398
Production	\$9,272
Marketing and Communications	\$135,244
Ticketing and Patron Service	\$10,107
General Operations	\$17,865
Renewal, Replacement, Capital	\$197,089
Total Expenses	\$1,299,578



Financial Narrative

Institutional Support

The Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center receives operations and staff support from Gonzaga University as part of the College of Arts and Sciences in three areas: **Operations, Staff Salaries, and Student Assistant Wages.**

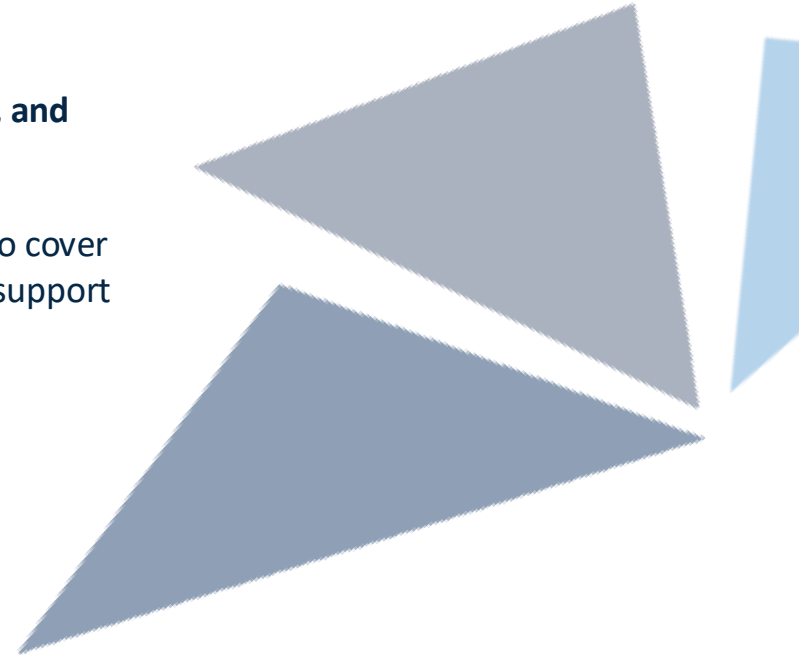
The Center employs 7 full-time benefited staff, approximately 30 student employees, and an on-call list of a dozen stagehands and house managers. The Myrtle Woldson Center has seen a significant reduction (65%) in the Center's baseline operational funding due to ongoing fiscal adjustments to the Gonzaga budget. This was offset through discretionary institutional funding.

Earned Revenue

The Center earns revenue from **Myrtle Woldson Center Presents Ticket Sales, Facility Rentals, and Ticket Fees from all sales of tickets.**

In fiscal year 2024-25 the earned revenue from tickets sales and other sources was not able to cover all expenses after institutional support. The funding shortfall was covered through additional support from the institution.

The finances of the Music, Theatre, and Dance departments are separate from the Center's budget. The Center has a separate restricted fund account for facility equipment, renovation, and repair .



MWPAC Restricted Fund

The Myrtle Woldson Center manages a restricted fund established by the estate of Miss Myrtle Woldson to support maintenance and upgrade of equipment and the facility.

Fiscal 2025 MWPAC R&R Fund

\$197,089 – Expenses

\$332,605 – End of Year Fund Balance (rolled into fiscal 2026 for future large cost projects)

During fiscal year 2025 restricted funds supported the purchase of

- New bar and concessions equipment,
- Furnishings for the upper lobby and lobby terrace,
- New audio and lighting equipment to better support our student and touring artists,
- New marley dance floor,
- Two new office workstations,
- And other purchases of equipment that has a life span of 2 or more years.

Future projects include a hydraulic loading dock lift, upper lobby art gallery space, and investment in intelligent stage lighting to keep the Myrtle Woldson Center state of the art.



2024/2025 Staff

Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center Staff

DIRECTOR: Stephen Cummins

MARKETING MANAGER: Beth Moore

MARKETING STUDENT ASSISTANT: Rhiannon Cochrane

BOX OFFICE AND PATRON SERVICES SUPERVISOR: Jess Loomer

BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS ASSISTANT: Joy Simmons

PRODUCTION MANAGER: Jon Carlson

AUDIO SUPERVISOR: Luke Parker

LIGHTING AND AV SPECIALIST: Adam Orens

HOUSE MANAGERS: David Harrell, Gina Bartelli, Grace Rowe, Joy Simmons, Laretta Heaney, Ilan Hernandez, Robbin Beach

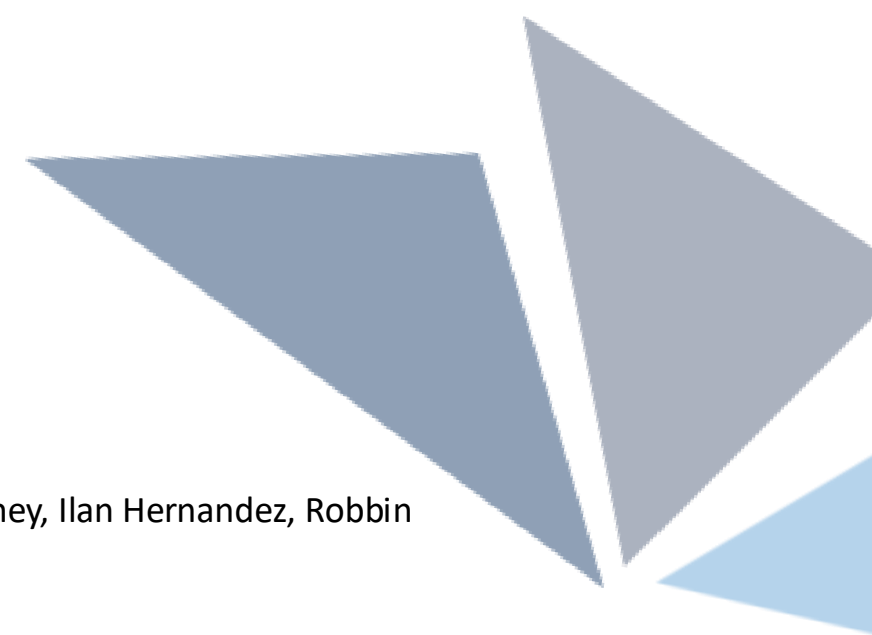
ASSISTANT STUDENT HOUSE MANAGERS: Analeesa Kornish, Ben Harris, Emily Scofield


BOX OFFICE LEAD: Sarah Giroux

BOX OFFICE STUDENT ASSISTANTS: Bella Adams, Laura Yocom, Rest Mugwaga, Staci Ayon, Emily Scofield, Kelly Zhang, Laura Yocom, Rest Mugwaga, Sarah Giroux

STUDENT USHERS: Akiko Hokamura, Bri Tabalno, Camille Broadbent, CJ Trujillo, Ella James, Han Phan, , Hugh Tribble, Jordan Salazar, Katie Wood, Kayla May Chongco, Madelyn Derr, Mia Crosby, Quency Ye

VOLUNTEER USHERS: Aiden Axthelm, Alyson Roby, Angela Ruff, Annie McKinley, Beth Rossing, Gib Rossing, Connie Smith, Iain Fisher, Judy Bomkamp, Norm Bomkamp, Kathleen Putnam, Kelley McGowan, Kellie Stanley, Kit Kocha, Kori Baker, Linda Leonard, Lynn Noel, Mike Noel, Steve Chen, T Strauhal, Tim Savatieff





I am certain that after the dust of centuries has passed over our cities, we, too, will be remembered not for victories or defeats in battle or in politics, but for our contribution to the human spirit. — John F. Kennedy

