



News Release
U.S. General Services Administration

For Release – Wednesday, January 25, 2017

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**GSA to Recognize Dale and Leslie Chihuly for Gift of Artwork
at Tacoma Union Station**
Most Significant Donation of Art in Northwest/Arctic Region History

TACOMA -- The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) will accept one of the most significant donations of art from Dale and Leslie Chihuly on Wednesday, January 25, 2017.

Original artworks by Tacoma native Dale Chihuly are installed in the rotunda of the Tacoma Union Station, a GSA public space. GSA will accept the art installations that will eventually become a permanent part of the national Fine Arts Collection.

The installed art is being gifted to the federal government. The Chihuly artworks at Tacoma Union Station have become part of an ever-growing arts district in downtown Tacoma. GSA is proud to assist in the preservation of these works.

Dale Chihuly's art is installed around the world. Five major artwork installations: "Lakawana Ikebana," "Monarch Window," "End of Day Chandelier," "Red Reeds on logs," and Basket Drawing Wall (drawings on paper) are included in the gift that has been on display in the station rotunda since 1994.

"This donation will allow GSA to continue to maintain and preserve these important pieces of art for future generations," said Lisa Pearson, acting regional commissioner for Public Building Services, GSA Northwest Arctic Region.

The official acceptance of the art will culminate in an invitation-only event celebrating the gift and preservation of the art **January 25 from 11 a.m. to noon at the Tacoma Union Station.**

“The United States is extremely thankful to the Chihuly family for this significant donation and for their contribution to the arts in the Northwest,” said Story Swett, regional chief architect for Public Building Services, GSA Northwest/Arctic Region.

The Tacoma Union Station in Tacoma, Washington, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1974; in 1980, the seven-block area surrounding the building was designated as a historic district and listed in the National Register of Historic Places. In 1987, Congress authorized GSA to lease Union Station from the city of Tacoma for 35 years to provide space for the federal courts. The federal courts began occupancy in 1992.

GSA will exercise the right in the lease to acquire the property for \$1 in 2022, when the lease expires. At that time, the Chihuly art will be accepted into the national Fine Arts Collection. Until the ownership of the station changes, the art will be maintained and owned by the Northwest/Arctic Region headquarters in Auburn, Wash.

Since its founding in 1949, GSA has been commissioning and preserving great works of art by American artists. Paintings and murals hang on the walls of post offices, courthouses, and federal buildings all across the country.

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