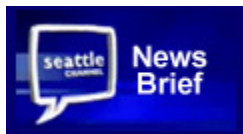




Seattle Channel 2005 Annual Report

The Seattle Channel continued to raise the level of its ongoing service to the people of Seattle. That was highlighted when Seattle Weekly named Seattle Channel the “Best Public TV Channel.” The Weekly said: “It’s so well done, you have to wonder: How could this possibly be a government project?”

The channel launched several new program projects in 2005 with **Community Stories** at the top. This new series is committed to telling the stories of our city’s diversity. It focuses on inspirational people, cultural traditions and rich histories that make up our many communities. Early episodes featured an Ethiopian refugee who now has a thriving hair salon, the hip hop duo Blue Scholars committed to making music about their community and the popular Salvadorean Bakery in White Center. Another new series is **City@ Work** which looks at Seattle city services and employees. Programs included visits to the Volunteer Park Conservatory, the city Water Quality Lab and the Seattle Animal Shelter.



Seattle Channel also launched **Seattle Channel News Brief** and **Seattle Channel News Report**. These short features focused on up-to-the-minute news on city issues like nightclub noise, the Monorail financial collapse, Viaduct safety issues and skateboard parks.

Seattle Channel continued its ongoing interview series with Seattle elected officials on **Ask the Mayor** and **Council Conversations**. **City Inside/ Out** with C.R. Douglas our weekly public affairs program from City Hall did over 35 programs on dozens of city issues like: historic preservation, the South lake Union streetcar, Seattle School closures, city electric rates, and Seattle city debt.

The channel created public affairs special programming on a variety of issues and topics including; City Budget 101, A Day with Chief Gil Kerlikowske, Emergency Preparedness, Seattle’s Gay, Bisexual Transsexual Community Center, Freight Mobility, and Seattle’s Downtown Core, the Grand Opening of City Hall Plaza, Ending Homelessness, Pay Station Parking and Seattle Parks Summer Programs.

Our popular **Neighborhood News** program with Lowell Deo continued profiling Seattle's vital neighborhoods. Featured communities included: Capitol Hill, the Central Area, Pinehurst, Lake City, Belltown, South Park and Columbia City.



Eric Liu continued his interviews with Seattle people making a difference in their city. Guests included: Nhien Nguyen, Lori Matsukawa, Bob Watt, Jackie Moscou, Father Steven Sundborg and Pastor Samuel McKinney.

The **Diverse City** section of our website video on demand library contains 74 program choices including a program on the 75th Anniversary of the Seattle Urban League, A Celebration of Human Rights Day with Dr Joy Leary, several programs from the Central District Forum for Arts and Ideas including the State of Black Arts. 2005 was the year we launched a new "enhanced meeting" effort for City Council Committee meetings. Some meetings featured graphics, photos and maps to help citizens understand complex issues Councilmembers were discussing. Seattle Channel 2005 election coverage featured community candidate forums, our **Video Voters Guide** and City Inside/Out election debates that the Seattle Times called "the best of the season."



Other Seattle Channel programming included **CityStream** our monthly magazine show with new host Marcie Sillman. Topics featured included a look at our city reservoirs, Seattle's cemeteries, earthquake preparedness and Seattle Center's financial problems.

Interview guests included; Seattle Schools Superintendent Raj Manhas, Peter Boal, new artistic director at Pacific Northwest Ballet and northwest painter William Cumming.

Eccentric Seattle with J. Kingston Pierce continued looking at Seattle's rich and colorful history with stories on Ivar Haglund, Bertha Landes and city engineer R.H. Thomson.



Student Voices included programs on Teenagers Changing the World and a forum with students and the Seattle City Council on city government process.

Arts and culture programming in 2005 included coverage of the Seattle International Film Festival. Nancy Guppy hosted Opening Night Gala coverage as well as features on local filmmakers, and forums on filmmaking and distribution. We also presented "An Evening with Peter Skarsgaard" and the 2005 Fly Films.



Nancy Pearl continued her very popular **Book Lust** series introducing viewers to great new books and the people who wrote them.

Nancy Guppy and Valerie Vozza continued their amazing work on **City a Go Go**. The monthly program features the local artists, musicians and performers who make the local arts and cultural scene one of the most vibrant in the nation. They also worked with the Seattle Channel staff for another year of **Bumbershoot Uncut**, a nearly live visit to Seattle's annual Labor Day arts festival.



The Seattle Channel won a dozen programming awards in 2005 including awards for: **A Library for All**, the Bruce Lee profile, Black Nativity at Intiman, **City@ Work**, **CityStream**, **Council Conversations**, MLK Day at Seattle Center, **Neighborhood News** Recycling and our Discover It promo.

We made several changes in the Seattle Channel infrastructure in 2005 including a new online production scheduling and workflow system, installation of a new SCALA billboard graphics system, a new DECKO character generation system, implementation of a "search" function in our online video on demand archive, and implementation of an electronic database for our tape library. We created a new series of onscreen graphics identifying the Seattle Channel and a new outreach print card with Seattle Channel information on programs and services. Fifteen thousand of the cards were distributed to community centers, libraries and human services agencies.

We also participated in the upgrade to the City Emergency Operations Center so emergency programming can now be instantly distributed to the city's commercial TV stations and the installation of an emergency onscreen text messaging system that can be triggered from multiple locations including the Seattle Channel and the EOC.

The Seattle Channel staff continues to provide essential and innovative "window on government" coverage of our public process. Every Full Council, Council Briefing, Council Committee meeting, and public hearing is carried live on channel 21. These meetings are also repeated on television and then moved to our online video archive where they're available for viewing for a year. The Seattle Channel has expanded its reporting on our diverse communities and neighborhoods and the rich mix of arts and culture that make Seattle a great city.

