



**PANAL CHAIR GAIL RAPPA**  
**FY 19 NEVADA HERITAGE AWARD**

**GAIL RAPPA:**

The NEVADA HERITAGE AWARD honors and recognizes Nevada master folk and traditional artists who, at the highest level of excellence and authenticity, carry forward the folk traditions of their families and communities through practice and teaching. Hazel T Sumile of North Las Vegas nominated **Fumiko Duncan**, Japanese dancer and dance instructor, for panel consideration. Ms. Duncan is a past recipient of both the Folklife Apprenticeship and Living Traditions grants.

**PANELISTS INCLUDED:**

**Steven Hatcher, folklife specialist at the Idaho Council on the Arts**

**Jennifer Jameson, folklife specialist with the Alliance for California Traditional Arts, a non-profit that manages the folklife grants program for the California Arts Council**

**Sally Van de Water, folk arts specialist at FolkPA, the statewide program of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.**

**PANELISTS COMMENTS:**

The teaching video was effective in showing engagement with the individual student, and also how the master artist teaches by modeling for the student, a very engaged approach... ~ Sally Van de Water

She appears to be a tradition bearer in a larger sense and more than just a master of dance forms. I commend her commitment to making sure students are oriented not just to the dance, but to become conversant in traditions and culture as well. ~ Steven Hatcher

It is very clear that within the community, and in that context, she is recognized as a master practitioner of the dance forms. I scored her highly in terms of significance and credited the nominee for being devoted to her local Japanese-American community and also to building bridges with other cultures. ~ Jennifer Jameson

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Tony Manfredi, Executive Director, Nevada Arts Council thanked the panel for their work and comments.

**RECOMENDATION REVIEW – PAT ATKINSON:**

The panel unanimously recommended that Fumiko Duncan receive the FY 19 Nevada Heritage Award and \$3,500 grant.

**BOARD CHAIR JULIA ARGER:**

Motion and approval of Fumiko Duncan to receive the FY 19 Nevada Heritage Award and \$3,500 grant.