

## Meet The New Director of Orcas Island Historical Museums

The Board of Trustees of the Orcas Island Historical Museums could not believe their luck when Nancy Stillger responded to the posting for a new Executive Director. After reading a heartfelt letter of introduction and an impressive resume, there was no hesitancy on the part of the Board to hire her.

“It is with great enthusiasm that I am applying for the Executive Director of Orcas Island History Museums. Like everywhere I travel, my first stop is always the local history museum; I have visited your gem when I only dreamed of living on Orcas Island. I believe a sense of history of place and people’s relationship to it is key to a strong community and world”, Nancy Stillger.

Nancy’s career has always been connected to preserving and celebrating special places. The environment - both historic, built and natural - and community building have always been her passion. She has an MA in Urban Planning and won the Dean’s Award for Community Service for her work connecting under-recognized communities in Los Angeles through public art on historic sites. Nancy served 7 years as Program Director at a nonprofit that helps underserved youth heal through creative expression (Art with Heart). She was the Museum Director of Campbell Historical Museum & Ainsley House (CHM) for almost 4 years where she oversaw the opening of their newly acquired historic house museum including interpretive plan development, volunteer recruitment and management, fundraising and assisting the curator in exhibition development and collections management.

Since joining OIHM, Nancy has been actively reaching out to individuals and organizations on the island. She is eager to learn every facet of history related to Orcas. She is enlisting volunteers, young and old, and working closely with the Board to enact new exhibits, new programs, and expand opportunities for the museum to interact with residents and visitors alike. If you would like to meet Nancy, please call the office at 360-376-4849 and set up a time to visit.