



NEWS RELEASE
North Olympic Library System
2210 South Peabody Street
Port Angeles, WA 98362

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: May 24, 2024
Contact: Corrina Desmarais, Older Adult Services Librarian
360.683.1161 x2; CDesmarais@nols.org
Re: Humanities Washington talk on Northwest Rock & Roll, June 4
Attached: *PeterBlecha.jpg*

Humanities Washington speaker Peter Blecha presents “Stomp and Shout: The Untold Story of Northwest Rock & Roll” at Port Angeles Main Library, June 4

The North Olympic Library System (NOLS) presents Humanities Washington speaker, author, and music history expert Peter Blecha for his talk, “[Stomp and Shout: The Untold Story of Northwest Rock & Roll](#).” The free presentation is on Tuesday, June 4, 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Port Angeles Main Library, 2210 S. Peabody St.

Northwest Rock & Roll’s historical highpoints are well documented—in the late 20th century, Nirvana, Soundgarden, Pearl Jam, and other grunge gods took the world by storm. Previously, Seattle’s Queensrÿche and Heart had ruled the heavy metal realm. And prior to that, The Wailers, The Kingsmen, Paul Revere and The Raiders, and The Sonics had all fueled local teen dances with garage-rock versions of the region’s signature song, “Louie Louie.”

Yet these iconic bands are only half the story. In this talk, join Peter Blecha to discover the lesser-known but vitally important bands and scenes that laid the foundation for what was to come—finally connecting all the dots between the fabled Northwest era of Ray Charles, Quincy Jones, and Jimi Hendrix, and the R&B-spiked roots of a distinct regional art form: the “Original Northwest Sound.”

About Peter Blecha

Peter Blecha (he/him) is the director of the Northwest Music Archives, an award-winning author, a founding curator at MoPop, and a longtime staff historian at HistoryLink.org. Blecha's newest book, "Stomp and Shout: R&B and the Origins of Northwest Rock and Roll," draws on his deep knowledge as a leading expert on Pacific Northwest music history to chronicle both well-known and overlooked icons of the early Northwest Sound. Blecha lives in Seattle.

About Humanities Washington

Humanities Washington is a nonprofit organization dedicated to opening minds and bridging divides by creating spaces to explore different perspectives. For more about Humanities Washington, visit www.humanities.org.

For more information about this and other library programs, visit nols.org, call 360.417.8500, or email discover@nols.org.



Humanities Washington speaker Peter Blecha.

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