



Residents in Newport Hills celebrated the opening of *Rain Catchers* with an “inaugural drenching.”

“The arts are an important expression of how people think of and experience the city and each other. Bellevue seeks to foster a strong arts and cultural community chiefly supported through a wide range of artists, art and cultural institutions, and arts groups offering a variety experiences to an engaged audience.”

-City of Bellevue, Comprehensive Plan, Urban Design & the Arts Element

Department of Planning and
Community Development

Agenda

Agenda

Tuesday, November 3, 2015
Meeting: 4:30 p.m.
Bellevue City Hall, 1E-109

Bellevue Arts Commission
Regular Meeting
Commission Staff Contact: 425.452.4105

-
1. **CALL TO ORDER** 4:30
Chair Manfredi will call the meeting to order.
 2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES** 4:30 – 4:35
 - A. Chair Manfredi will ask for approval of the agenda.
 - B. Chair Manfredi will ask for approval of the October, 2015 regular meeting minutes.
 3. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS** 4:35 – 4:40
Chair Manfredi will entertain oral communications limited to three minutes per person or five minutes if representing the official position of a recognized community organization for other than main agenda items and public hearing subject. A maximum of three people are permitted to speak to each side of any one topic.
 4. **ACTION ITEMS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**
 - A. Wilburton, Grand Connection and the Planning Work Plan 4:40 – 5:05
 - B. Allocations Recommendations 5:05 – 5:40
 - i. **Action:** Vote whether to endorse the Allocations Committee's 2016 funding recommendations for Eastside Arts Partnerships recipients.
 - ii. **Action:** Vote whether to endorse the Allocations Committee's 2016 funding recommendations for Special Projects recipients.
 - C. Gifts/Loans Process Technical Update (Attachments) 5:40 – 5:55
Action: Vote whether to recommend a technical update to the procedure for reviewing offers to the City of gifts and loans of art to reflect the Department which staffs the arts program and provides the liaison to the Arts Commission.
 - D. Offer of Gift of Art from the Blackstock Family (Attachments) 5:55 – 6:05
Action: Vote whether to endorse the Public Art Gift Committee's recommendation to accept sculpture, Lotus, as a gift by the Blackstock Family to the City's Art Collection and to place the work in Surrey Downs Park.

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|----|---|-------------|
| 5. | COMMISSION QUICK BUSINESS | 6:05 – 6:10 |
| 6. | REPORTS
A. Commissioners' Committee and Lead Reports

B. Project Updates from Staff
1. Monthly Project Update Report | 6:10 – 6:25 |
| 7. | CORRESPONDENCE, INFORMATION
A. Written correspondence

B. Information
1. Future agenda items
2. Committees | 6:25 – 6:30 |
| 8. | ADJOURNMENT
Chair Manfredi will adjourn the meeting. | 6:30 |

Wheelchair accessible. American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation is available upon request, and large print agendas available upon request. Please contact the Arts Program at least two days in advance mpbyrne@bellevuewa.gov ▪ 425-452-4105 (Voice) ▪ Please dial 711 for assistance for the hearing impaired.

Department of Planning and
Community Development

Minutes

BELLEVUE ARTS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

October 6, 2015
4:30 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall
Room 1E -120

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Commissioners Jackson, Lau Hui, Lewis, Madan, Malkin, Wolfteich

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Chairperson Manfredi

STAFF PRESENT: Mary Pat Byrne, Scott MacDonald, Department of Planning and Community Development

OTHERS PRESENT: Jessica Lambert, Venues for Art in the Local Area (VALA); Karen Abel, ArtsEast; Joan Wittler, Evergreen Association of Fine Arts (EAFA)

RECORDING SECRETARY: Gerry Lindsay

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 p.m. by Commissioner Malkin who presided. All Commissioners were present with the exception of Commissioners Jackson and Lewis, who arrived at 4:33 p.m., and Chair Manfredi, who was excused.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

A. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Wolfteich. Second was by Commissioner Lau Hui and the motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the September 1, 2015, minutes as submitted was made by Commissioner Wolfteich. Second was by Commissioner Lau Hui and the motion carried unanimously.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None

4. ACTION ITEMS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. VALA/ArtsEast/EAFA Panel Discussion

Arts Program Manager Mary Pat Byrne introduced the panelists and said her reason for calling them together was to give the Commission a better understanding of what their organizations do, what challenges they face, and what opportunities they see.

Joan Wittler, Evergreen Association of Fine Arts (EAFA) president, said the all-volunteer non-profit organization began in 1975 with six members. It now has more than 200 members and it continues to grow. About 65 percent of the members reside in Bellevue; the balance live in

the broader Puget Sound area. She gave a description of their membership, programs, and current initiatives including a grant program and their public art program.

The organization conducts monthly meetings throughout the school year and takes the summer months off. The meetings are held at the Bellevue Presbyterian Church. Steps are being taken to hold an evening meeting as well to accommodate artist schedules. The meetings include a lecture and demonstration by an advanced artist from the community. EAFA also offers an online newsletter, and has three juried shows annually.

Karen Able, executive director of ArtsEast, said the organization has been in existence for ten years. The first five years was spent in gathering artists and dreaming about what could be done. The organization continues to evolve, building its programs and awareness. There are about 250 members that include both artists and arts supporters. Well over ten thousand people are served annually through the organization's various programs. The organization is based in downtown Issaquah but it serves the entire Eastside.

The most visible thing done by ArtsEast is a retail gallery. About half of the 3500 square-foot building on First Street in downtown Issaquah is dedicated to a retail gallery in which member's works are shown and sold. The gallery is completely artist envisioned, managed, driven, marketed and staffed. Steps are being taken to market in new and more aggressive ways.

ArtsEast has a wide range of programs offered to artists and the Eastside community including 10-12 shows annually, many of which include town hall-type programs to add depth and draw people, community events, and up to 150 educational workshops serving about 1200 students a year which are attended mostly by adults, although some youth workshops are offered.

Jessica Lambert, executive director of Venues for Art in the Local Area (VALA) said the organization began in 2010. She said she and her husband co-founded the organization because of the apparent disconnect between the community and the arts programming in Redmond. At the time the Redmond Arts Commission was going through a large transition period, there was no Kirkland Art Center, but there were a lot of artists. What was missing was a non-profit arts organization to mobilize the artists and connect with the city. Things mobilized once the Redmond Arts Commission found its footing.

Ms. Lambert said VALA is based in Redmond and considers itself to be an Eastside organization meeting the needs of Eastside artists. There is a clear lack of venues, studio space and installation space, and the mission of the organization is to connect artists with artists, artists with the community, and the community with the arts. The organization's programming is currently focused on public/private partnerships.

VALA works to create opportunities for artists and the arts. The educational programs provided are primarily focused on adults, though steps are being taken to include the younger generation. A pilot program was launched early in 2015 in which seven artists were invited to come in and set up shop and the response was good. The notion is being expanded to provide space to artists at low cost. VALA partners with the Redmond Town Center on the annual Redmond Arts Festival.

Ms. Lambert explained VALA's funding structure and sources as a non-member organization that includes both public and private support.

Asked by Ms. Byrne to explain how the individual organizations differ, Ms. Able said the permanent bricks and mortar retail gallery and a space in which to offer classes is an obvious

difference. The income earned is mostly returned to the working artists. The rent on the space is very high even though it is below market rate. There is a tremendous amount of overlap among the artists with the three different organizations, which is possible by not being tied to political boundaries.

Ms. Byrne asked what the biggest challenges being faced, Ms. Wittler said EAFA is facing the challenge of finding a new home. The hope is that a place will be found on the Eastside to facilitate the members who do not want to travel far. The Design Center location where the organization was housed originally was a great space, but it was not possible to achieve the goal in terms of foot traffic.

Ms. Lambert commented that critical mass is a primary concern. There is no question the organization has the talent, the artists and the content, but unless a critical mass is achieved in terms of traffic it will be difficult to succeed. It is also essential to consider the demographics of the artists in the organization. What VALA has seen is a rise in the number of emerging artists who are older, and the economic drivers are different for them.

Ms. Able stated that what most artists need is a dedicated, significant space in which they can be messy in creating art. Many artists are lost to Seattle and other places as they become more advanced and need space in which to work collaboratively and connect with other artists. Society generally understands the needs of performing artists when it comes to practice and performance space, but society is less well informed about the needs visual artists have for space.

Asked by Ms. Byrne to comment on opportunities, Ms. Lambert said VALA believes the answer to success lies in partnerships.

Ms. Wittler said there is opportunity in open dialog between arts groups and organizations. Arté in Kirkland, a development that when opened will have residents on the top floors and retail on the ground floor, will include a small gallery. What artists are seeking in Seattle should be recreated on the Eastside, and the primary need is space.

Asked what, aside from money is needed to make the organizations more successful in meeting their respective missions. Ms. Able said ArtsEast needs passionate people who are leaders. As yet there are no clear answers relative to where the organization is going and how it will be able to sustain itself 20 years into the future. In a strange way, gridlock, traffic and lane tolls can be seen as the impetus for arts organizations to collaborate in real ways without impacting each other's customer base, most of whom prefer to stay close to home.

Ms. Lambert concurred with the need to improve collaboration and communication. It would be helpful to have an Eastside arts website that is not linked to any specific city. There is a real need to let artists and the public know about where things are.

Ms. Byrne asked if there is any particular technical assistance arts groups could benefit from receiving. Ms. Able said the boards could certainly benefit from leadership training as well as training on how to move forward into e-commerce. Ms. Wittler said communication is a huge issue relative to how to get the word out about what is being done. Ms. Lambert said the groups could benefit from learning how to develop an audience and what it is that will bring people in the door.

Commissioner Wolfteich asked how much exposure the organizations have on social media networks as a tool to enhance connectiveness. Ms. Lambert said VALA is pretty savvy about using social media. Even so, people do not know the organization and what it does.

Ms. Able said ArtsEast ranks about average when it comes to using social media. Ms. Wittler suggested that EAFA is a bit below average in that arena, primarily because the members are older.

Commissioner Madan said as a working artist he is always surprised to learn of an organization that has been in place for a long time. That is evidence of a communication problem. The Eastside has a problem in connecting with the general audience and one thing that could help would be to get included in the art section of the *Bellevue Reporter*, the *Issaquah Reporter* and the *Redmond Reporter*, each of which is part of the same parent company. The publications are widely distributed on the Eastside.

Ms. Able commented that ArtsEast enjoys good press coverage in the *Issaquah Reporter*, but only occasionally does a story appear in all three papers. When they do, the results are noticeable.

Commissioner Madan suggested it would be beneficial to have an Eastside distribution list for arts organizations to use in getting the word out about upcoming events. Ms. Lambert said 4Culture does that to some degree. It would be great to have an app people could click on and know instantly what is going on. Ms. Byrne said that can be done with Facebook. There is also an app called NextDoor that focuses on issues and events associated with limited areas. Additionally, the StQRy app allows organizations that pay for subscriptions to easily post events.

Commissioner Malkin said his experience has been that the news media will pick up newsworthy events once they receive a press release. Newsworthy events include curated or juried shows where the curator or jurors are well known. He added that ArtsFund has a very active online presence and that organization provides training for the ArtsFund associates.

Mr. MacDonald said Seattle pulls a lot of funding dollars from the Eastside, and also pulls a lot of artists who may live on the Eastside but who want to work in Seattle or otherwise engage with the Seattle art scene. That speaks to the issue of critical mass. The issue of creating a critical mass on the Eastside begs the question of addressing demographics, cultural as well as age. Overall, Bellevue's residents are getting older, while residents in Downtown are getting younger. Redmond is getting younger across the board. Statistically, younger persons are more likely to attend arts events. He asked what the organizations are doing to look to the future and address the changing demographics on the Eastside.

Ms. Able said her organization has spent a lot of time focused on that issue. The conclusion reached was that the demographic shift offers a number of opportunities. Art is an antidote to cocooning behind a computer, and the younger generation of art users and supports, as well as artists, demand engagement in ways that have not been seen in a long time. The performing arts and museum entities have understood that for a long time and have developed audience engagement strategies. The same approach needs to be taken by the visual arts community.

Ms. Able commented that the Arts Commission is well connected in a much bigger city than the three organizations. She said what ArtsEast needs is leaders, people with vision, and young people who want to roll up their sleeves and get involved in driving the arts forward. Ms. Wittler agreed, as did Ms. Lambert who added that Bellevue has the critical mass opportunity that the other cities do not have.

5. COMMISSION QUICK BUSINESS – None

6. REPORTS

- A. Commissioners' Committee and Lead Reports
- B. Project Updates from Staff

Ms. Byrne announced that since the packet was put together an offer to donate art was received. It was created by Verena Schwippert, and currently owned by Betsy Blackstock, who will be moving soon and can't take the artwork along. The city owns two works by Ms. Schwippert, *Giga Now* and *Water, Precious Water*, that were acquired through past sculpture exhibitions; both are sited in Downtown Park. As a resident of Surrey Downs, Ms. Blackstock would like the work to be sited in Surrey Downs Park. The park is set for a major redesign and staff are amenable to siting the work temporarily in the park and then relocating it in a permanent location consistent with the redesign of the park. Moving and installing the work, plus future maintenance would be the responsibility of the Public Art Program.

Ms. Byrne said it will be up to the Commission to determine whether or not all criteria for accepting art can be met, and to vote on whether or not the piece should be accepted into the City's collection. She proposed forming a committee and recommended Commissioners Lau Hui, Madan and Malkin because of their backgrounds in visual art.

Ms. Byrne shared with the Commission new information regarding resiting *Wild in the City*, a work that was at the Bellefield Office Park that had to be removed to accommodate a utilities project ahead of the Sound Transit East Link project. Two sites have been identified: near the courthouse in the Bellefield Office Park, and along 112th Avenue SE. The 112th Avenue SE site has good visibility but is close to Mercer Slough and as such will require several months to obtain the necessary permits. Additionally, the underlying peat soils will require siting the work on either piles or geofoam. The courthouse site is known to be unevenly settling that may or may not continue. It is likely that anything sited there will need to be constantly readjusted over time. For the long run, the courthouse site does not appear to be the best choice. Accordingly, focus will be given to the 112th Avenue SE site.

Ms. Byrne announced that she would be leaving the city effective November 30. She said she has been with the city for 28 years and plans to retire. She said an open call will be made to fill her vacancy.

Mr. MacDonald reported that the opening celebration for the Newport Hills art installation has been scheduled for October 17 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The contract for the artist has been extended to October 9 by which time the work is expected to be completed.

7. CORRESPONDENCE, INFORMATION – As Noted

- A. Written Correspondence
- B. Information
 - 1. Future Agenda Items
 - 2. Committees

8. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Malkin adjourned the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

Department of Planning and
Community Development

Action & Discussion

SURREY DOWNS PARK

Master Plan Update

Contact: Scott Vander Hyden - SVanderHyden@bellevuewa.gov



PARK PORTAL



Arlington sculptor adds 'Mussel Beach' to Gig Harbor

By [KIRK BOXLEITNER](#)

Arlington Times Reporter

February 21, 2014 · 7:05 PM

1 Comments

GIG HARBOR — An Arlington artist is making a landmark difference to another community.

Arlington Arts Council member Verena Schwippert's works are familiar features on the Arlington landscape, between the salmon spawning pool on the trail south of Burke Street, the "Dedicated to the Beauty of Earth" artwork on Fourth Street, purchased by Virginia Hatch in honor of her husband, and most recently, "Waterline" in the park adjacent to Lebanon Street, across the street from Les Schwab.



Arlington artist Verena Schwippert's 'Mussel Beach' granite sculptures will be part of the Feb. 28 ribbon-cutting for Gig Harbor's Eddon Boat Park. / COURTESY PHOTO.

"Verena gave us a really good deal on 'Waterline' a few years ago," Arlington Arts Council President Sarah Arney said of the three huge, highly polished granite boulders. "It's a real tribute to the power of the river."

Schwippert, a stone sculptor who often uses granite from the Cascade Mountains, was again in her element when she was commissioned to create three large granite mussels for a piece called "Mussel Beach," which was funded by Percent for the Arts from the Washington State Arts Commission, and will be part of Gig Harbor's Eddon Boat Park.

"There will be a ribbon-cutting for the entire park, which is a Washington State Historic Heritage site, and an extensive environmental cleanup and restoration project, with help from the Department of Ecology," Schwippert said. "The entire project took 10 years to complete."

Schwippert's sculptures will be located within an ADA-accessible area at the southeast corner of the park, and the ribbon-cutting will commence at 3 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 28.

Schwippert p



culpting the mussels, and extended

her thanks to Pat Barton, Carl Nelson, Bob Leverich, Travis Brown, Reg Akright, Norbert Jäger, Tracy Powell, Martin Beach, Michael Gardener, Ken Barnes, Tom Monaghan and Mike Sweney, as well as the successful restoration project.”

“Verena is one of our extra-special community treasures,” Arney said. “Her sculpture in Gig Harbor is so perfect for the location. The beach itself is now named ‘Mussel Beach,’ after her sculpture.”

Commenting Rules

1 Comment

Sort by Top ▼



Add a comment...



Verena Schwippert ·

Artist at Public Stone Sculpture

nice ! thx v

Like · Reply ·  8 · Feb 23, 2014 1:35pm

 Facebook Comments Plugin

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MENU

PAST EXHIBIT

Vibrant Matter

Artist of the Year: Verena Schwippert

August 13 – September 19

Main Gallery

Schack Art Center is thrilled to honor public sculpture artist Verena Schwippert as an Artist of the Year for 2015. Verena shares this honor with [photographer James Arrabito](#).

Their combined exhibit is called "Vibrant Matter" and is on view in the Schack's main gallery through September 19, 2015. The 2015 Art Advocate of the Year, Lloyd Weller, and the 2014, Volunteer of the Year, Susie Howell, are also being honored during this exhibit opening on Thursday, August 13 at 6pm.

Exhibit co-sponsored by the City of Everett Cultural Arts Commission



Vibrant Dome by Verena Schwippert

About Verena Schwippert

Originally from Germany, Schwippert has called the Northwest her home for the past 35 years. She started her own granite sculpture studio in Arlington in 1994 and since then has created large public sculptures for Sound Transit and the Washington State Arts Commission.

Schwippert's work is frequently shown at the Karla Matzke Fine Art Gallery and Gallery Mack Art Connection. She has also served on the Board of Directors of the Northwest Stone Sculptors Association and also on the Snohomish County Arts Commission for many years.

Artist Statement

For most of us, as for me, there is a tangible presence in the large stone boulders, as well as a peaceful, yet very great power.

I strive to capitalize on that presence by leaving the shapes of the boulders nearly intact, yet try to inject them with a pulse, carefully and gently. This pulse can be described as a visual quality, the illusion of "just about to move to another shape-ness."

To use the form of the boulders as nearly as they are, perfectly sculpted by ice, water and rocks during an immensely long time, is my way of paying homage to the forces that shaped them, inclusive of time and gravity.

My sculptures invite the touch and physical interaction of people; in fact, in a way they are not complete without this touch; the giant hands I make, invite folks to sit in them and feel the safe calm of the granite.



Divan by Verena Schwippert

Even those sculptures that do not obviously show the shape of the boulders, are worked and designed to highlight the character of stone, its essence and its "stone-ness". My site responsive works emphasize the "humanness" in the sculptures, connections to the history of civilization, and to the granite layer of our planet.

The initial inspiration to work huge granite boulders stems from the megalithic Stone Age sites in Northern Germany, where I grew up. My medium of choice is granite, which, among other qualities, has great durability. With a bit of luck my sculptures will last until the next 20 thousand years.

About "Vibrant Matter"

The distinction and privilege to be nominated artist of the year 2015 by the Schack Art Center is a great honor for my art and for me. Thank you all.

My Co-Artist of the Year, James Arrabito, and I celebrate creativity and the arts in varied shapes and forms, and its interaction with the public in this unique venue in Everett , WA.

The City of Everett has special meaning to me, because my first large scale public sculpture was made for this city about a decade ago. It was commissioned by Sound Transit, and resides at the train station's Light Rail terminal. The name of that megalithic work is " Handwerke" [Handworks, referring to the manufacturing background of Everett].

The works in this show - except two smallish ones - are sculpted from granite from the neighboring Cascade Mountains, worked on a farm in Arlington, where I reside.



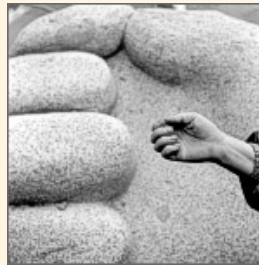
Napping on the Metate by Verena Schwippert

The invitation to show my art in a duo-solo show with James Arrabito has given a great up-lift and encouragement to my sculpting, and I wish to once again thank the Schack Art Center and everyone involved, for the great confidence and honor bestowed on me.

[SHOW ALL](#)

Biography

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[Public Sculptures](#)
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[Shows and Exhibitions](#)



	Born in Bergkamen, Westfalia, Germany
1970 - 74	Travels throughout Europe, north and middle America
1974 – 83	Lived and worked in Seattle, WA
1983 – 84	Lived and worked on Camano Island, WA
1984 & 86	Spent two winters in Barrow, AK
1988	Fall and winter, lived and worked in Taos, NM
1995	Home and studio in Arlington, WA

Education



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1967	completed High School at Katharineum zu Luebeck, Germany
1968 – 69	Boyes Pulley Fine Art Academy, Hamburg, Germany
1969 – 73	Hochschule fuer Bildende Kuenste am Lerchenfeld, Hamburg, Germany
1970 – 72	University of Hamburg, Germany; studies in Paedagogics
1973	B.F.A. Degree in Art Education at University Hamburg, Germany
1988	Introduced to stonesculpture by R. Morning Gun in Fort Collins, CO
1993	Joins Northwest Stone Sculptor's Association (NWSSA), Seattle, WA
1994 – 2001	annual NWSSA Symposia, Camp Brotherhood, Mt. Vernon, WA
2001	studies with B.Amore and K.Uchida, Stone Sculptor's Symp. Mt. Vernon, WA

Bibliography



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Metzger, K.Mark	Editor's Choice The collector/Investor Magazine, April 1982 At the Galleries, Argus Downtown, Seattle, WA
Jaques, Helga	Second Annual European Art Exhibition, Continental Reporter, Oct 1982
Henning, Susan	Celebrating European Art, SIGNATURE, November 1987 New Camano Art Gallery at Rocky Point, The Stanwood News, July 1995
Sandry, Steve	Sculpture in the Northwest, NWSSA Newsletter, Interview, May 1999 Arlington Times, Interview, Dec 1999
Arney, Sarah	Arlington Times, about NWSSA Symposium, July 1999
Wayne Rapp	Stone in America, Interview, April 2000, Ohio
Wayne Rapp	SLIPPERY ROCK GAZETTE, Interview, April 2000 , Indiana
David Reed	The Art & Craft of Stonework , N.C. March 2002
Jon Hahn	The Seattle Post Intelligencer, November 7, 2002
Diane Wright	The Seattle Times, February, 2003
C.Valenta	Sound Transit, RTA, Fact Sheet Brochure, March 2004
Helge Normann	Travemuende Moevenpost, Luebeck, Germany, June 2005
L. Tomkins	SCULPTURE NW, JOURNAL, Interview, Nov/Dec 2005
S. Arney	Arlington Times, Walla Walla gets a Hand from local Artist, July 2007

Public Sculptures



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Walla Walla Community College, WA
Administered by **WA State Arts** Commission,
"Von Menschenhand" 2007, [By the Hand of Humans]



Arlington Centennial Trail,
Arlington, WA, "Dedicated to the Beauty of Earth" 2006

Bellevue City Park, Bellevue, WA
Purchased by the City of Bellevue, " Giga Now " 2004

Everett Train Station, City of Everett, WA
Commissioned by Sound Transit, " Hand Werke" 2002

Snohomish Arts Council, Everett , WA
Commissioned by Snohomish Arts Council: Dr. Wendt Award, 2002

Mountain View Elementary School, Newport , WA

Commissioned by J. Overfield " Vessel of Knowledge, 2000

Marysville , WA

Commissioned by Dr. Gold, DDS, Granite Fountain: Wellspring, 1998

Gallery Affiliations



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Gallery Mack, Seattle, Wa

Westcott Bay Sculpture Park, San Juan Island, Wa

History of the World Part IV Gallery, Camano Island , Wa

Urban Garden Habitat, Falls City, Wa

Marenakos, Preston, WA

Waterworks Gallery, Friday Harbor WA, San Juan

Stonearium, Seattle, WA

Selected Shows and Exhibitions



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- 2007 July Installation WSAC sculpture At WWCC, **Walla Walla** , WA
- July Aug, Stonarium Marble Show, Seattle , WA
- May, Peace Show, Another Roadside Attraction Gallery, Mt Vernon, WA
- April, Art on Colby, Everett Cultural Commission, Everett, WA
- 2006 Oct Dec Whatcom Museum , Bellingham WA
- Jun Oct Sculpture Exhibit Bellevue WA, curator M.P. Byrne
- May Oct Marenakos Gallery, Seattle, WA curator K. Kojima
- June 1rst, **Lecture** at Evergreen State College, Prof. B. Leverich
- Apr/May Juntunnen Gardens, Mt Vernon WA, curator Pam Hon
- Feb/Mar Galerie Petra Jaeger, Hamburg , Germany
- 2005 Dec/Jan Gallerie Drexelman, Neeroeteren, Belgium
- Nov Stonearium, Marenakos, Invitational, Sea, WA Curator: R.Hestekind
- Oct/Nov Gallerie Donkersvoort, Beek en Donk, Netherlands
- Aug Waterworks Gallery, San Juan, WA , Curator: Ruth Offen
- July WestEdge Sculpture Invitational, Seattle, WA, Curator: R. Pakker
- May 3rd ann. Centennial Trail Sculpture, Arlington, WA, Curator: Jean Olsen
- Apr Big Rock Garden Invitational, Bellingham , WA
- 2004 Oct. Public commission installed City of Arlington, WA, Centennial Trail
- Jun. Bellevue WA , Outdoor Sculpture Show 2004, Bellevue Art Museum

Mar. Maryhill Museum , Goldendale , WA. Curator: Lee Musgrave

2003 Oct. Whatcom Museum, Bellingham , Show : All That Jazz , Curator: K Iverson

Sep. Commission by City of Arlington: Sculpture for Centennial Path

Jun City of Everett, WA Arboretum, 1yr show, Wendy Becker, E. Cultural Commission

May Carnegie Center , Oregon City, OR..curator D.Haslett

Mar. La Conner (WA) Inaugural Sculpture Exhibition, Zac Elander, curator

Jan. elected to the Board of Directors of NW Stone Sculptors Association, NWSSA

2002 Nov commissioned by the Everett Cultural Commission with the creation of the

Dr. R. Wendt Reward for Excellence to be presented to the Snohomish Arts Council.

Oct "Arts Alive" Show of LaConnor Arts Council, WA. Curator: Tracy Powell

Sept Inclusion into Wahington State Arts Resource Bank, Olypia, WA

Aug. Stillaquamish Invitational, Arlington, WA. Curator: Virginia Hatch.

2001 Nov. elected to the Board of Directors of the Snohomish Arts Council, Everett, Wa

"Arts Alive" invitational Show, Community Center La Conner, Wa Curator: T. Powell

Oct. ongoing: Westcott Bay Sculpture Park, San Juan Isl. Director Kay Kammerzell

Feb. Contract with Sound Transit for megalithic public sculpture at Commuter Train Station in Everett, Wa, in progress, installation August 2002

2000 Nov. Allied Arts Bellingham, Wa. "In the Beginning was Stone" Curator Scott Emory

June/July: Snohomish Arts council, Everett, Wa "Art of the Garden" Cu. R. Hestekind

Gallery Mack, Seattle, Wa. "Celebrating Coffee" Curator J.Overfield

April: NWSSA Show at Metropolis Gallery, Bremerton, Wa. Curator Leon White

1999 Nov. Haheim Gardens, Newport Wa. "Living with Sculpture", Curator N.Jordan

Oct. Pratt Institute, Seattle Wa. "Written in Stone" Curator S. Gentiluomo

June Featured Stone Sculptor at Gallery Mack, Seattle, Wa.

1998 History of the World Part IV Gallery, Camano Island, Wa.

Snohomish County Arts Council Show, Monte Christo Everett, Wa.

Jan: "Sculpture '98" , Convention Center Seattle Wa.

1997 Dec: History of the World Part IV Gallery, Camano Island , Wa

Oct: Group Exhibit at Gallery Mack, Seattle , Wa

April: Invitational two women show Sweetbriar Nursery, Kirkland , Wa

NWSSA at the international Flower and Garden Show Convention Center, Sea.

1996 July: Exhibit at Blackhawk Plaza, San Ramon, Cal.

June: Invitational Women's Sculpture Show at City of Anacortes, Wa.

May: Juried Show , sponsored by the Snohomish Arts Council, Everett, Wa.

1995 Dec: Invitational Show, Haheim Gardens, Seattle

Nov: Rocky Point Nursery Gallery, Camano Isl. Wa

Oct: Molbacks Nursery Sculpture Gallery, Woodinville, Wa.

Sept: Langley Gallery at Whidbey Island, Wa.

Aug: Featured Artist at Souvenirs of the Soul Gall., Stanwood, Wa

July: Excecutive Gallery , Kirkland, Wa.

Feb: NWSSA at Internatl. Flower and Garden Show, Convention Center, Seattle

1994 Sept: Exhibition at Sweetbriar Nursery, Kirkland, Wa.

1989 Aug: Shadow Wolf Gallery, Seattle, Wa.

1988 Oct: Sculptures and Paintings at Arroyo Hondo , NM

Nov: Second annual European Artshow, German House, Seattle, Wa.

- 1987 Jan: Soloshow at Stuakpak, Barrow , Ak
- 1985 March: Soloshow at Prinz Vincent Gallery, Seattle, Wa.
- 1977 June: As member of Seattle Cultural Rennaissance Group at Langston Hughes Cultural Center
- 1974 Larsen Gallery, Hamburg Blankenese, Germany
- 1973 Solo exhibit at Hochschule fuer Bildende Kuenste, Hamburg, Germany

[top](#) ▲

Verena Schwippert – art in the City Collection

Selected for three Bellwether exhibitions

Two city purchases, located in Downtown Park



Giga Now

Granite

49" h x 64"w x 62" d

Location: Downtown Park



Water, Precious Water

Granite

40" h x 44"w x 35" d

Location: Downtown Park

LOTUS



Artist: Verena Schwiippert

Material: Black Granite on a white granite base

Dimensions: estimated: 37"h x 22"w x 10" d

Value: \$7,500

Proposed Location (donor condition): Surrey Downs Park

Offer of Gift of Art from the Blackstock Family

Committee Report and Recommendation

At the Commission's October meeting staff informed the Commission of an offer of a gift of art from Bellevue resident Betsy Blackstock, and requested that a committee of commissioners be assigned to review the offer and make a recommendation to the full Commission, following the city's procedure for responding to such offers. Commissioners Hui, Malkin and Madan were assigned by the Chair to conduct the review.

At today's meeting the Committee will discuss the offer and make its recommendation to the full Commission.

At Ms. Blackstock's invitation, the committee went to see the actual sculpture. Returning to City Hall, committee members discussed the offer according to the criteria in the policy

Aesthetic Quality: The artist, Verena Schwippert, has shown work in several Bellevue Sculpture Exhibitions, now Bellwether, and at the Commission's recommendation the City purchased two of her works which are in the Downtown Park. Images of the two works, *Water*, *Precious Water* and *Giga Now*, are included in today's packet. The committee discussed how the work compares to the work in the City's collection, noting that it is an earlier work. Committee members noted that the work's size and texture encourages people to touch the work. Viewers can have two experiences of the sculpture – the overall size and shape of it from a distance, and the close-up interest of the texture carved in to the work.

Suitability of gift and compatibility with suggested site: The Blackstock family is moving out of the area. Their Surrey Downs home borders the park. Ms. Blackstock is conditioning the gift on its being located in Surrey Downs Park. A new master plan has been adopted for the park and construction is expected to begin within the next year or so. To place a permanent artwork in the park, the art needs to be consistent with the design of the park. The site must be a safe place for the art and not create a public hazard. Parks staff said the artwork, *Lotus*, is consistent with both the current and future park design. They propose that the art be moved to a location in the park outside of future construction area, and then moved to its permanent site once construction is completed. The Committee noted that the location should be in the open, not under trees in order to minimize collecting tree droppings and to take advantage of granite's ability to sparkle in sunlight.

Professional Credentials of the Artist: The Committee was also provided information on her biography from her website and recent recognition from Schack Art Center as the Artist of the Year for 2015. Ms. Schwippert has a long career as a sculptor.

Maintenance/Liability: The City's experience with the two Schwippert sculptures in its collection is that the work is durable and easy to maintain. Surrey Downs Park does not have a record of vandalism that would create concern about the art's safety.

Donor's Condition: the donor noted one condition, that the sculpture be sited in Surrey Downs Park. It appears that the City can meet that condition.

Committee Recommendation: The Arts Commission should recommend that the City accept the gift, site it in Surrey Downs Park, allowing staff to choose both the interim and permanent locations that will best display the work.

Action: Vote whether to endorse the Public Art Gift Committee's recommendation to accept sculpture, Lotus, as a gift by the Blackstock Family to the City's Art Collection.

POLICY ON GIFTS, LOANS AND DONATIONS
OF WORKS OF ART TO THE CITY

A. OBJECTIVE

To provide a process by which the City will accept works of art as part of its artwork collection, both temporarily and permanently.

B. POLICY

Proposed gifts, loans or donations to the City of Bellevue through any given Department for commissioning or placement in any City facility shall be reviewed by the Bellevue Arts Commission for artistic merit, context in the City Collection, site appropriateness and City liability, including maintenance.

C. PROCESS

The Visual Arts Committee shall review the suggested site for, placement and the artwork with the donor as to contingency requirements. The Visual Arts Committee shall review the piece itself in a timely fashion based on the following criteria:

1. Aesthetic quality of the work;
2. Suitability of the gift and its compatibility with the suggested site;
3. Professional credentials of the artist;
4. Maintenance/liability; and
5. Donor's conditions, if any.

The Visual Arts Committee reviews the piece and proposed location and makes its recommendation to the Bellevue Arts Commission. The Parks-Planning & Community Development working collaboratively with other departments as appropriate, Department shall ordinarily make recommendations for proposed site placement.

The Bellevue Commission reviews the-artwork and proposed location and accepts or rejects the work by a majority of its members.

Upon acceptance, the Parks-Planning & Community Development Department staff shall prepare a certificate of acceptance for the donor to transfer title for acquisition. For acceptance of loaned works of art, the City shall prepare an agreement in accordance with these guidelines and including other appropriate conditions such as term of the loan.

If recommended for acceptance by the Arts Commission funding for site preparation and installation will be derived from the Municipal Art Fund.

Action and Discussion

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Bellevue Arts Commission

Policy and Procedure on Gifts and Loans of Works of Art

Proposed Technical Update to Procedure

At today's meeting staff will request the Commission's recommendation on a technical change in the procedure for reviewing offers of gifts and loans of art that changes the department doing the administrative work connected to responding to such offers. When the policy was written, the Arts Program resided in and was staffed by the Parks Department. The proposed technical change will change those references to the Department of Planning & Community Development, which staffs the Arts Program currently.

A copy of the policy and procedure with the proposed updates is attached.

Action: Vote whether to recommend a technical update to the procedure for reviewing offers to the City of gifts and loans of art to reflect the Department which staffs the arts program and provides the liaison to the Arts Commission.

Action and Discussion

Tuesday, November 3, 2015
Meeting: 4:30 pm

Bellevue Arts Commission
Action and Discussion

Wilburton/Grand Connection and Planning Work Plan

The purpose of this update is to provide the Arts Commission with an overview of the major planning initiatives that the Arts Commission will be involved with in some capacity over the next year and into 2017. On October 5, 2015, Planning and Community Development and Development Services staff received direction from City Council on the 2016 Planning Work Plan. This work plan, while largely focused on 2016, includes two items that are planned to span into 2017; Wilburton Special Opportunity Area/Grand Connection and Neighborhood/Subarea Planning for an as yet undefined neighborhood/subarea.

As the Arts Commission works to define its own work plan for the period 2017-2018, staff will provide a brief overview of the Wilburton/Grand Connection initiatives at today's meeting. Staff will also quickly touch on some of the other planning initiatives that may involve the Arts Commission in some capacity during 2016.

Wilburton Special Opportunity Area/Grand Connection

The Grand Connection is a vision for a major pedestrian and bicycle connection between Wilburton and Meydenbauer Bay Park. This vision encompasses the Pedestrian Corridor through Downtown, which has also been designated as a permanent art walk. This planning effort will be primarily be focused on finer grain work on the area from I-405 to the Eastside Rail Corridor and the Grand Connection's integration with Wilburton land use, but will also include a higher level look at the entire Grand Connection west to Meydenbauer Bay.

Neighborhood/Subarea Planning

The area is currently undefined and will be determined by City Council. The latest update to the Comprehensive Plan identifies 14 subareas within Bellevue.

2016 Planning Initiatives

These initiatives include:

- Downtown Livability
- BelRed "lookback"
- Housing Strategy

Quick Business

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Bellevue Arts Commission

1.

2.

3.

Department of Planning and
Community Development

Reports

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Bellevue Arts Commission

Project Updates

Art Walk

Meydenbauer Bay Waterfront Expansion

November 4, 2014: At its October 28th special meeting the commission voted to recommend that staff pursue developing a public art project proposal outlining key opportunities, themes and estimated budgets primarily for phase one of the park's development. Staff has contacted 4Culture to explore contracting with them to manage the public process for selecting artists for phase one.

December 2, 2014: Parks staff will be hosting an Open House for the Phase 1 Design on Wednesday, December 3rd from 5:30-7:30 PM at Bellevue City Hall. Staff met with public art project management contractor from 4Culture to discuss managing artist selection for the project.

January 20, 2015: Staff has hired Cath Brunner of 4Culture to manage the artist selection process. Tentatively, we expect a jury panel to be assembled in February and artist selection to be complete in March.

February 10, 2015: At today's meeting staff will present a draft of the Call to Artists and discuss primary art opportunities, the proposed budget associated with each opportunity, and the artist selection process.

April 7, 2015: An artist selection panel will meet on April 10th at 4Culture to review submitted artist applications and portfolios and select a short list of artists to interview for designated opportunities. On April 17th, interviews with the selected artists will be held at Bellevue City Hall and final recommendations will take place. Selections will be finalized once the artists are under contract. 4Culture contractor reported that a very good selection of 40+ artists have applied.

May 5, 2015: Artist selection for Phase 1 was completed. Staff is working on contracting with the selected artists. There will be more information presented at today's meeting.

August 4, 2015: Staff continues to finalize contracts with the selected artists. An artist orientation for selected artists took place on July 30th. There will be a community meeting at Bellevue City Hall in room 1E-108, on Wednesday, August 5th, at 6:30 pm.

September 1, 2015: Staff continues to finalize contracts with the selected artists. The first community meeting took place at Bellevue City Hall on August 5th. At the meeting, artists selected for Phase 1 presented examples of their previous work to a small group of residents. A second community meeting is scheduled at Bellevue City Hall in room 1E-112, on Wednesday, September 9th, at 6:30 pm. At this

meeting artists will present alternative concepts for the art and the community will be asked to provide feedback. The panel will attend and, based on community response at the meeting, recommend which alternative concept from each artist should be further developed.

October 6, 2015: Artists presented their initial concepts for art to panel members and the public on September 9. After listening to the artists and comments from community members present at the meeting, the panel gave each artist direction on which concepts to develop. The artists will return in October to present their designs.

Update, November 3, 2015: The design development process is progressing. On October 7th the panel and community members reviewed and commented on the updated designs. Responding to comments, the artists presented both an on-budget and enhanced versions of their proposals. The panel provided further direction to the artists regarding refining their proposals. On November 4th, the artists will bring their completed models and design illustrations. The panel will be asked to vote whether the designs accurately reflect the panel's input and if they do, request that staff put the models on public display to gather comments from the public. Assuming the panel's vote is to begin the public comment gathering process, the design proposals will be displayed at the Bellevue Regional Library for about 10 days. On November 18, the panel will reconvene, review the community feedback, and vote on their recommendation to the commission. Staff will describe the timing and next steps for the Commission at today's meeting.

Bellwether 2016: Confluence

October 6, 2015: With the application up on callforentry.org, staff is working to promote the show to potential artists. The application is scheduled to officially close on October 30th. Staff has hired Tanja Baumann Communications LLC to research potential jury members. Ms. Baumann managed the marketing campaign for Bellwether 2014 and is familiar with the needs of the exhibition. Staff is planning to have the jury identified prior to the closing of the application period.

Update, November 3, 2015: Staff has received confirmation that Mark Anderson from The Foundry in Walla Walla, and Beth Sellers from Suyama Space in Seattle, have agreed to be jurors for this exhibition. Staff is working to get a third juror confirmed to date.

Artists have submitted over 160 artworks online at callforentry.org. Artwork submitted so far is a range of indoor and outdoor sculpture plus many proposals for temporary and site-specific artworks. In previous exhibitions, the jury would have between 5-10 site-specific proposals to review. This year, so far, there are over 20 proposals for this type of artwork.

The closing date of the application period was scheduled for October 30 and has been extended to November 8th.

Lamp Post Project 2015

September 1, 2015: For the past several years the Arts Program has partnered with the Bellevue Arts Museum to commission an artist to design art that attaches to lamp posts along the Pedestrian Corridor. BAM partners with the Bellevue Collection to commission a large display in front of Macy's for the Bellevue ArtsFair. This year, Elizabeth Gahan was selected from a pool of applicants to create both

the work that was at Macy's during the fair and the colorful work now on the lamp posts and which will be displayed through October.

October 6, 2015: The bright and colorful Lamp Post Project, an art installation by Elizabeth Gahan, is expected to be taken down in the middle of October.

Update, November 3, 2015: The artwork remains up along the Pedestrian Corridor.

ArtMap – Downtown Bellevue

An update and reprint of the map was completed in September. Three thousand copies were printed. Boxes of maps were delivered to the Bellevue Regional Library and Meydenbauer Center Visitor Information, the Bravern (by request) and Service First, the City's key distribution point. More will be distributed to other locations as well.

Public Art in Neighborhoods

Newport Hills/Lake Heights

January 29, 2015: Permits have been issued for the installation of the Rain Chain. Bruce Myers is continuing to work on the fabrication of the piece.

February 10, 2015: Bruce Myers continues to work on the fabrication of Rain Chain.

May 5, 2015: Landscaping for this project has been underway. The west bus shelter has been fully planted. A significant planted area on the east side of 119th is in progress and should be completed by the May 5th Arts Commission meeting. Artist Bruce Myers is nearing completion of the Rain Chain, with installation expected late May or early June. Following installation of Rain Chain, Bruce Myers will complete the mosaics. Once this final component of the art project is complete, staff will schedule a celebration to dedicate the artwork with the Newport Hills community.

June 2, 2015: Landscaping for the project is complete. Artist Bruce Myers is working out the final finishing details, including preparation for color application to the bottoms of the stainless steel leaves for Rain Catcher. Mr. Myers is planning construction of the foundation for the artwork for the first half of June. The mosaic components to be set onto several granite boulders, will be installed following the installation of the 16' tall sculpture.

August 4, 2015: On Friday, July 24th, artist Bruce Myers installed the 16' tall stainless steel Rain Catcher on the corner of 119th Ave SE and SE 58th Street. The mosaics, the final art element in this project, will be completed by the end of August.

September 1, 2015: Artist Bruce Myers has been working towards completing the layout of the final mosaics in his studio. Newport Hills resident and artist, Bruce Hansen, will be joining him at his studio on Orcas Island to complete the mosaics. The mosaics are being fixed to mesh, brought to Newport Hills and installed on the faces of several of the cut boulders. There will be six mosaics that represent spirals, a key concept in the artwork, and frogs and butterflies. Staff is looking at dates for the dedication, which is expected to occur at the end of September or early October.

October 6, 2015: Staff is finalizing details for the October 17th Opening Celebration for this Newport Hills public art project. The event will be held from 11-1 PM on 119th Ave SE and SE 58th Street. If weather doesn't cooperate, the event will take place at the Newport Hills Community Church, which has been an important community partner in this project. Prior to the event, artist Bruce Myers will be installing the final mosaics. Also prior to the event, Parks staff will be replacing plants that didn't survive through the hot summer and adding additional landscaping where needed.

Update, November 3, 2015: On October 17th the Opening Celebration took place in Newport Hills. It was attended by 30-40 happy residents and guests including Councilmember John Stokes, Commissioners Malkin and Lau Hui, and the artist. Commissioner Malkin served as a master of ceremonies for the event, which featured a number of speeches from local residents, Councilmember Stokes, and the artist, and a special dedication gesture that involved a ribbon cutting and an "inaugural drenching" of the large *Rain Catcher* on the corner of SE 58th Street and 119th Avenue SE.

Following the ceremony, attendees moved across the street for cake, refreshments and additional snacks donated by Cloud 9 Burgers of the Newport Hills Shopping Center. Feedback from the community on the artwork, the associated landscaping, and the event were very positive.

Lattawood Park

May 5, 2015: At April's Arts Commission meeting, the Commission voted to move forward with exploring the possibility of a public art project with in Lattawood Park. Arts staff has set up meetings with Park's staff and Utilities' staff to further explore the viability of this project. Staff will be contacting the adjacent neighborhoods to get a sense of the interest level within the community for a public art project within Lattawood Park.

June 2, 2015: Arts staff has been meeting with all departments and workgroups within the City that maintain or have infrastructure within Lattawood Park to confirm the viability of the project, potential sites for artwork within the park and to learn the history of the site. Staff has met with Parks maintenance staff and staff from the Natural Resources group and confirmed areas within the park that could potentially have art. Staff has also met with those familiar with the history of the park and will provide a brief synopsis of that at today's meeting. Next steps for this project include writing the guiding principles for the project and meeting with the surrounding communities to kick off the project, among other duties.

August 4, 2015: Arts staff has reached out to the neighborhoods in the area of Lattawood Park. These neighborhoods include Cougar Hills, Horizon Crest, Horizon Heights, and Whispering Heights/Cottingwood. So far, staff has heard back from the Whispering Heights/Cottingwood Community Association and Horizon Heights neighborhood and has scheduled to meet with the Whispering Heights/Cottingwood group at their September 17th meeting at 6:30 pm at the Newport Way Library.

September 1, 2015: Staff has made contact with the Horizon Heights neighborhood association and will be scheduling a meeting with the community once the other neighborhoods have been contacted.

October 6, 2015: Staff will be presenting the project and engaging interested people at the Whispering Heights/Cottingwood annual meeting on November 12th at 7:00 PM. At this point, efforts to contact two of the neighborhood associations close to the park haven't been successful. If this continues, staff will go ahead with the project and promote community engagement and participation directly to residents with future inter-neighborhood project meetings.

Update, November 3, 2015: Staff will be discussing the project at the Whispering Heights/Cottingwood annual meeting on November 12th at 7:00 PM. Staff will also work to schedule a larger event that will be open to all residents in the area to kick off the process. Staff anticipates this event to take place in January.

Lake Hills/PSE Poles

May 5, 2015: Staff has received engineering drawings of the poles from PSE. Staff needs to confirm that the poles can handle additional weight. Staff has also gotten confirmation from the Lake Hills Library that future community meetings can occur at the Library. Next steps include confirming with Transportation that this project is a possibility. Once this is confirmed staff will reach out to the Lake Hills community regarding their interest and involvement in the project.

June 2, 2015: Staff has discussed this project with Transportation staff, Development Services staff responsible for the City's right of way, and Utilities staff to determine potential issues or concerns with artwork located on the PSE poles. Arts staff is planning to meet with Transportation on site to confirm that constraints are fully understood prior to kicking off the project with the community. Basic concerns discussed focused on maintaining the function of the sidewalk and not impeding traffic flow.

August 4, 2015: Arts staff has reached out to the Lake Hills community and has not heard back to date. Attempts to reach the community association will continue.

September 1, 2015: Staff will be attending the next Lake Hills Community Association board meeting on September 3rd at a private home to introduce the project and recruit interested community members to be involved in the project.

October 6, 2015: Staff will be presenting the project to the East Bellevue Community Council on November 3rd. Staff is also working on a formal agreement with PSE.

Update, November 3, 2015: The East Bellevue Community Council's meeting agenda has changed for November and will not include the Lake Hills/PSE Public Art project. Staff is working to get back on the EBCC calendar in the coming months.

As a precaution, staff is also working with the City's legal team to draft up an official agreement between the City, PSE and the utility companies that use the poles to ensure the long term success of the project.

East Link Public Art

July 2, 2013: The lead artist team is compiling art opportunities along the East Link route. Arts Program staff met with the lead artist team and others to convey the Commission's suggestions made at the

June 7th Bellevue Arts Commission meeting. In July, the lead artist will also be assembling selection panels to choose artists for individual stations.

August 8, 2013: At its July 2nd meeting Commissioners continued their discussion of art opportunities at the various stations. The Station naming process was discussed, and the Commissioner discussed how to most effectively communicate with Sound Transit regarding name preferences.

October 1, 2013: Commissioners met with Meta Artè, the lead artist team, and Sound Transit staff at the September Arts Commission meeting to discuss art opportunities at the East Main and the South Bellevue Stations.

November 5, 2013: Candidates for the artist selection panel for the 130th Avenue Station have been submitted to Sound Transit. Sound Transit staff has begun contacting candidates. City of Bellevue staff has also been working on the redesign of the City Hall plaza as part of the Downtown Station design. The plaza will be demolished as construction begins of the alignment Downtown and Sound Transit and City staff is working to come up with a design that allows the functions of both City Hall and the Downtown Station to operate cohesively. Artist Dan Corson, who worked with the City as part of the original City Hall design and created the artwork Root located on the plaza, has been a part of the discussion.

December 3, 2013: SStart staff has begun to contact citizens to serve on art panels. A presentation on how the SStart program works and how art enhances transit will be given to City Council is scheduled for Monday evening, December 9th.

****See following updates for individual stations. ****

130th St. Station

January 21, 2014: The first panel meeting to select an artist for the 130th station was held on January 15th. Artists will be interviewed on January 31st. Chair Tremblay participated on the panel and will report at today's meeting.

February 11, 2014: The 130th station panel interviewed the three finalists previously selected during the first panel meeting. An artist was selected by the panel. SStart staff are working to finalize the contract with the selected artist. SStart is working with City staff to identify panel members for selecting an artist for the Downtown station.

April 1, 2014: the 130th St. Station artist is Patrick Marold.

Downtown Station

May 6, 2014: The first and second panel meetings took place at the Bellevue Arts Museum to select artists for the opportunities for art that have been identified by the Sound Transit staff and the Lead Artist Team. Commissioners Malkin and Jackson took part in the panel. The artists selected are Ball-Nogues Studio and Paul Maroni.

September 1, 2015: SStart staff and artists Paul Marioni and Benjamin Ball of Ball-Nogues Studio (via SKYPE) presented their designs for Commission comment. SStart staff will continue working with the artists and will return with updated designs when ready. The Downtown Station's name is now officially the Downtown Station.

South Bellevue Station

May 6, 2014: The panel met to create a list of artists to interview for the opportunities at the South Bellevue Station. The panel met in the historic Winter's House to review the artists and selected six artists to interview for the opportunities that were identified at the station. Commissioner Ludeña participated in the panel. Interviews are scheduled for May 8th.

November 4, 2014: Design work continues on the art components. At today's commission meeting, SStart Manager Barbara Luecke and John Walser, Project Architect, will update the commission on recent design progress.

Wilburton Station

May 5, 2015: SStart Manager Barbara Luecke and John Walser, the Project Architect, will reorient the Commission with the Hospital Station at today's meeting in preparation for the upcoming artist selection process for this particular station.

June 2, 2015: Sound Transit convened the artist selection panel on May 27th to interview three artists selected as finalists for the Hospital Station. One artist was selected by the panel following the interviews and discussion. Additional updates will be provided by SStart Manager Barbara Luecke and John Walser, the Project Architect, at today's meeting.

September 1, 2015: SStart staff will be touring the selected artist, Philip Smith, around Bellevue and the region to gain context and inspiration for his future artwork. Arts and Planning staff will be meeting with SStart staff and the artist to discuss the future of the Wilburton neighborhood.

October 6, 2015: Staff from the Arts Program, Planning and Parks met with artist Philip Smith to discuss the history and the future of Wilburton, the area around the future station.

Update, November 3, 2015: SStart staff are planning on bringing artist Philip Smith to the December 1st Arts Commission meeting to discuss the project.

Public Art Maintenance

Relocation of *Wild in the City*

January 20, 2015: East Link construction along 112th Ave. SE is requiring the City to relocate a pump station to where we have an art work we own jointly with that property owner. Staff in working with the City, the property owner and the artist to relocate the work to about the equivalent of two blocks north. The artist, Norm Taylor, has approved the site. Management of the site has changed hands and staff is in the process of contacting them. The new site is in City right of way. The move will be paid for by the Utilities project. Arts Program staff is getting estimates from qualified contractors to move the art. It is expected to be moved mid-February to early March.

April 7, 2015: The artwork was successfully removed from the site and placed into temporary storage. Two sites on the property are under consideration, one in front of the new Bellevue Courthouse, now undergoing extensive tenant improvements, and a site about 1.5 blocks north of SE15th site. Staff is working with various project managers to resolve the site selection.

May 5, 2015: Landscaping plans have been submitted to a soils engineer. The soil engineer will review the landscape plans and propose a design for installation. This work will lead to an estimate of cost. The artwork is currently being stored at Lile Storage.

September 1, 2015: A soils engineer has been hired to test the soils at one of two sites and create a schematic design for installing the art at the Court House site.

Repairs for Arc with Four Forms

January 20, 2015: This sculpture was damaged during a December windstorm. Art Site is repairing the damaged portion of the work and will clean the sculpture and base. Work is underway.

February 10, 2015: Repair of artwork is underway.

April 7, 2015: Repairs are completed.

Season's Shelters

April 7, 2015: Staff noticed that a component of the artwork, located at 140th and Main Street, had been damaged and was in need of immediate repair. There was also a large tag on the seat that is both a part of the artwork and serves the bus shelter. Staff contracted with Artech to do the repairs. Artech consulted with artist Karen Guzak prior to making repairs. The repairs have been completed.

City-wide version for ArtMap

February 11, 2014: Staff is confirming the locations of two artworks that have recently been relocated during the construction at the Bellevue Botanical Garden. Once the new locations are identified, the map will be printed and distributed.

January 20, 2015: Staff is reviewing final edits of the City-wide ArtMap. Printing should be underway in the next few weeks.

Other Projects and Programs

Cultural Demographic Survey

January 21, 2014: Staff is reviewing a full draft of the final report.

September 9, 2014: Consultant is completing extensive revisions. Staff expects to see the new draft in September and will work with Consultant to complete the study.

October 7, 2014: Staff is awaiting revisions from the consultant.

November 4, 2014: Revised draft was received and is under staff review.

Cultural Compass

January 21, 2014: At today's meeting the committee will report on progress organizing focus groups.

February 11, 2014: Staff will be organizing and scheduling focus groups to take place in the near future.

April 1, 2014: Three focus groups are scheduled for April and one for May. Details will be presented at today's meeting.

May 6, 2014: Three focus groups have been held to date. Specific discussion topics included Public Art, Facilities and Supporting Artists and Arts Groups. A fourth focus group is scheduled for Saturday May 10th. This group will focus on Cultural Diversity and include shorter discussions on issues related to the other goals that are a part of this update. Attendance of the first three focus groups was light but the discussion was constructive and will provide value direction moving forward. Staff is compiling notes from the focus groups and considering next steps in the process.

Storefronts Bellevue

August 5, 2014: Meydenbauer Center is the newest partner for our Storefronts Program. A new display opened concurrently with Bellwether, and information is included in the Bellwether catalog. Susan Brown's Percy Forde Silbert's Complete Guide to the Ocean and Celeste Cooning's Lotus Flower and Milk and Honey are on display, occupying 6 display windows facing NE 6th.

September 9, 2014: New work will be installed in the Meydenbauer windows this month. The current contract will expire in October, and staff is discussing with Shunpike the possibility of contracting for another year.

October 7, 2014: New work has been installed in the Meydenbauer windows. The two artists being showcased in the windows are KC Madsen and Paul E. McKee. KC Madsen is showing her artwork Tide and Elements, made of industrial paper, paint, and encaustic, and Paul E. McKee is showing his work flâneur, which is a representation of the reflections seen on the buildings in Downtown Bellevue.

January 20, 2015: The Arts Program will partner with Meydenbauer Center to continue the program in its display windows along NE 6th.

April 7, 2015: Meydenbauer Center is now featuring two new artworks in its windows by artists Philip LaDeau and Serrah Russell. On display February 19th-June 19th, Philip's piece, entitled In Window//In Vitrine explores architectural space and light, and Serrah's piece, entitled ESCAPE, explore the human experience and our surroundings.

September 1, 2015: Currently there are no displays at Meydenbauer while it undergoes its \$12 million renovation. It is assumed displays will continue when the Center re-opens in a few weeks.

Update, November 3, 2015: Artist Barbara De Pirro has installed artwork in the Meydenbauer display windows. The artist has also had work in the last two Bellwether sculpture exhibitions including work at Bellevue City Hall, along the Pedestrian Corridor, and on Bellevue Way. The partnership with Meydenbauer Center will continue into 2016.

Funding, 2015

January 20, 2015: Applications for 2015 were due January 12th. Eleven EAP applications were received along with 21 Special Projects applications. The number of EAP applications is consistent with last year. The number of Special Projects applications is down 4 from last year, but is still at a high number. Panel interviews and deliberations are in the process of being scheduled for the week of January 26th.

February 10, 2015: At today's meeting, the Allocations Committee will present its funding recommendations for Eastside Arts Partnerships and Special Projects recipients. The Arts Commission will vote on the Committee's recommendations.

April 7, 2015: All organizations have been notified of their funding awards. From now to December staff is processing invoices and reports.

Funding, 2016

August 4, 2015: At today's meeting, the Arts Commission will discuss the 2016 Funding Guidelines and vote whether to recommend that Council adopts the 2016 Funding Guidelines.

September 1, 2015: 2016 Funding Guidelines, recommended by the Arts Commission, are scheduled to go to Council for final approval on September 8th.

October 6, 2015: On September 9 Council approved 2016 funding guidelines as recommended by the Commission, and the local arts community was notified that the guides are available. On September 29th, staff held a clinic to answer questions from prospective applicants. Applications for Eastside Arts Partnerships and Special Projects funding are due October 12th. Staff is in the process of scheduling dates for the panel to meet.

Update, November 3, 2015: The Allocations Committee met several times during the week of October 26th to interview EAP applicants and to review Special Projects applications. Due to the timing needed to produce the November Arts Commission Packet, a more detailed description will be available at today's meeting.

Completed in 2015

Arts and Heritage Day in Olympia, 2015

Completed.

January 20, 2015: Arts Program staff has traditionally assisted with setting up appointments with Bellevue's state legislators on Arts and Heritage Day, which this year will be on March 4th, 2015. Commissioners are invited to participate.

April 7, 2015: Completed March 4th.

Comprehensive Plan Update

Completed.

August 4, 2015: On August 3rd, Council will meet to vote on the approval of the final draft of the Comprehensive Plan.

September 1, 2015: On August 3rd, the City Council voted to approve the final draft of the Comprehensive Plan.

Ethnic Showcase

Completed.

For the past several months City staff members Shelley Brittingham and Mary Pat Byrne collaborated with a multi-agency team called Arts and Social Change to organize a series of opportunity for emerging ethnic artists to develop professionally. In the fall two free daylong workshops were held in Seattle at which artists learned about contracts, booking, and other “tools of the trade.” Experts were on hand to provide one-on-one evaluations of websites and social media activity and a professional photographer was available to take professional photos of individual performers and groups. On January 27th a half-day showcase at Meydenbauer Center featured about ten juried performers, many of whom attended the workshops last fall. Also invited were members of local arts agencies and others who book artists such as a representative of the Bellevue Downtown Association. Over 200 people registered for the event. Councilmembers Stokes and Lee both attended and gave some words of welcome. The organizers felt the event was very successful at the Meydenbauer and plan to make Meydenbauer Center the site for the event in the future.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

Completed.

May 5, 2015: At the City Manager’s request, arts staff worked with various galleries, artists and leaders in the Asian Community to create a month-long display to celebrate Asian Pacific Heritage Month through the lens of visual arts and design. About 20 artworks will be on display from May 4th through May 31st. A closing celebration is planned for May 28th at City Hall.

June 2, 2015: To celebrate both the exhibition and Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month, community members, artists and others met on May 28th at Bellevue City Hall. Music was provided by Rong Rong Chinese Folk Choir and harpist Charlene Chin. More updates about the event will be provided at today’s meeting. This project is completed.

Pianos in the Parks

Completed.

Pianos in the Parks brought 3 pianos to Bellevue in a first time partnership effort. The artist-painted pianos were sited at the Ashwood Plaza, Bellevue Botanical Gardens and Downtown Park for one month, July 17 to August 17. The Downtown Park piano was painted by Arts Commissioner Vikram Madan. The event is the creation of Laird Norton Wealth Management. Classical Pianos, a Bellevue business, found, tuned and oversaw delivery, maintenance/repair and retrieval of the 22 pianos sited county-wide. The City participated through the arts program for no cost. Some staff time was used in coordinating and promoting our local pianos. A small opening event was held at the Bellevue Regional Library, at which the Mayor both spoke and played the Ashwood Piano. The pianos were all purchased afterwards through an auction. It is likely the event will be repeated in 2016.

Department of Planning and
Community Development

Information

COMMITTEE DESCRIPTIONS AND SUGGESTED ASSIGNMENTS

Below are suggested committee assignments for 2015. If you have any questions or would like to swap an assignment, please discuss with Chair Paul Manfredi.

2014-2015 Suggested Assignments	
Projects	Commissioners
Allocations	Becky Lewis, chair
Allocations	Paul Manfredi
Allocations	Vikram Madan
Annual Meeting	Paul Manfredi, lead
Bel Red Arts District	Carl Wolfteich
Bel Red Arts District	Paul Manfredi, chair
Bellwether Sculpture Exhibit 2016	Philip Malkin, chair
Bellwether Sculpture Exhibit 2016	Becky Lewis
Bellwether Sculpture Exhibit 2016	Carl Wolfteich
Bellwether Sculpture Exhibit 2016	Maria Lau Hui
Blackstock Gift Review	Maria Lau Hui
Blackstock Gift Review	Vikram Madan
Blackstock Gift Review	Philip Malkin
Cultural Compass Update	All commissioners
Cultural Compass Update	Trudi Jackson, lead
East Link Public Art 120 th Spring District Station	Vikram Madan, lead
East Link Public Art Bel Red Station	Becky Lewis, lead
East Link Public Art Downtown	Philip Malkin, co-lead
East Link Public Art Downtown	Trudi Jackson, co-lead
East Link Public Art Hospital Station	Paul Manfredi, lead
East Link Public Art South Bellevue	Maria Lau Hui, lead
EastLink Public Art Main Street	Carl Wolfteich, lead
Executive Committee	Paul Manfredi, chair
Executive Committee	Philip Malkin
Meydenbauer Bay Beach Park Phase 1	Vikram Madan, lead
Neighborhood Public Art Project Leads Lattawood Park	Philip Malkin, lead
Neighborhood Public Art Project Lake Hills Cell Towers	Becky Lewis, lead

Tateuchi Center Collaboration	All commissioners.
Tateuchi Center Collaboration	Trudi Jackson, lead

Arts Commission Upcoming Agenda Items & Events

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