

March 11, 2015 Staff Reports and Project Updates

- 140 West Art Plaza

We are gearing up for the spring schedule of concerts, dance and other art events at the 140 West plaza to begin on Friday evenings from April, 10 – June 17, 2015. The April 10th re-awakening of the sculpture will feature the contemporary hip hop dance group Black Irish.

- Library % for Art Projects

Todd Frahm has begun carving on the four 3.5' x 3.5' limestone animal sculptures for the exterior plaza of the Library. The project is being funded by several sources; including gift funds from the Library. Erik Carlson, the selected artist for an interactive video project for the main interior, will be in CH conducting workshops and accepting images from people in March (school groups) and April (adult groups). An anticipated completion date for both projects is end of June 2015.

- Library Art Trail

In addition to the Tom Grubb 63 ft. high rope and bamboo sculpture for the green space at the top of the library trail, a found object sculpture of a camel by Jonathan Bowling has been installed along the trail near Library Drive.

- Arts & Entertainment District Grant

A federal grant application for \$150,000 plus matching was submitted January 15, 2015. The grant is for funding to plan, market, and implement demonstration projects that connect the arts, entrepreneurship and town and gown interests to draw attention to Chapel Hill's cultural assets. Thank you to commissioner Emily Kass for all her hard work on helping with that application. We will find out in July if we were successful in our application.

- Community Clay Studio

Winter/Spring Session A classes began February 9. Registration is now open for Summer Community Clay Studio Arts Camp. Budget requests for next fiscal year include funding instruction time and supplies for two additional adult classes and one additional teen class utilizing a 3rd instructor, and also installation and software support to put an unused Parks & Rec computer in the Studio so staff can better communicate and share documents without printing. Income from new classes would more than cover these expenses.

- Downtown Art Program

In addition to the spring storefront installations that went up on March 2, the railing in front of McDonalds has been used as a canvas for a plastic cup installation by the artist team of Helen and Mike Seibold. Carter Hubbard will be planting clover seeds in the shape of words in the median of the Community Center parking lot and in other locations downtown. A similar project was done last year by Hubbard with much positive feedback. The Downtown Partnership coordinates payments, installation, publicity and other aspects of this program funded by the Public & Cultural Arts Office. The Downtown Partnership will be working with U Square to in some way create an artwork for the construction fence for the 123 Franklin St. development project.

- Veteran Memorial for Chapel Hill Cemetery Project

The Vets Memorial Committee last met on 03/04. The committee presented the concept to two Orange County Council Members. There may be an opportunity to develop a joint veteran's memorial. The committee was open to new location possibilities. A CHPAC representative is still needed for this committee.

Committee Reports

- Sculpture Visions/Juried Exhibitions Series

The RFQ for the 2015-16 Sculpture Visions program has been distributed with a March 16, 2015 deadline for submission. Due to competition with other communities the honorarium for participation has been increased. Selected artworks will go on display in July.

Juried Exhibitions artist Eng Pua is on exhibit at the Library through April and Brad Williams is on exhibit at Town Hall through May. A call to artists for this program will be issued mid-spring so that new exhibitions may be coordinated for August 2015 and the rest of the 2015-16 fiscal year.

- Permanent Collection

Public Arts and Parks Maintenance staff is following up on the February 2015 committee and CHPAC recommendations for the outdoor collection.

- Artist in School Residency

Jeannette Brossart's residency at Glenwood Elementary School is scheduled for March 23-26 with installation TBA in late April or early May. The project will involve 75 4th grade students creating bird-shaped mosaics that focus on contribution of our immigrant communities.

- Into the Streets: Community Art Project (CAP)

Musician and Educator Pierce Freelon and the Organization Culture Mill were selected as a team to receive the 2105 Into the Streets Commission. The project involves beat making workshops and performances mid-March and will feature a cross cultural exchange between teens in CH and those in Portobello, Panama