

March 11, 2015 Staff Reports and Project Updates

- 140 West Art Plaza

The spring schedule of concerts, dance and other art events at the 140 West plaza begins on Friday April, 10 and will run through 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, was in CH conducting workshops and accepting images from people in March (school groups) and will return between April 15-21 for additional information gathering with 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 Plan

Commissioner Emily Kass has been hard at work doing some final editing to the Chapel Hill Cultural Arts Plan. The Plan will be presented to Council at the May 4, 2015 Work Session for their comments and suggestions and then will undergo a number of public hearings before returning to Council in the fall.

- Arts & Entertainment Research

During Spring Semester 2015, the UNC Public Policy Capstone group has been engaged in a systematic baseline study on the economic impact of existing town and University arts initiatives/ programs and to create an effective marketing plan to maximize publicity and attraction. On April 22nd at 11: 15 a.m. in the Chapel Hill Library Conf. room A that student group will be presenting the findings of their economic impact research from select businesses and UNC institutions.

- Community Clay Studio

Winter/Spring Session B classes begin next week, Monday, April 13 and registration is ongoing; as of 4/6 all offered classes are expected to run except one 1 of 2 new adult classes with a 3rd instructor and 1 Clay for Kids class. Clay for Kids usually fills, so if this one does not Studio should consider using the school system's new fee-based online flyer distribution program (hardcopy fliers –the Studio's usual promotional method – are no longer allowed by the school system). An exhibition of adult and children's work created at the Studio is on display in 3 cases at Chapel Hill Town Hall through May. Registration is also open for Summer Community Clay Studio Arts Camp (2 of 9 now filled). Budget requests for next fiscal year include funding instruction time and supplies for two additional adult classes utilizing a 3rd instructor, and one additional teen class. Also requested for next year is software support to put an unused Parks & Rec computer in the Studio so staff can better communicate and share documents without printing. Income from these new classes is expected to cover these requests. After many months of discussions, a new employment situation allowing the studio manager/instructor

to work more hours could not be arranged so manager will remain part-time (“program support staff”), working less than 1,000 hours per 365 day period.

- 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 Seebold. Carter Hubbard planted 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. Veteran Memorial for Chapel Hill Cemetery Project

- Vets Memorial

The Committee last met on April 1 to look at possible locations for a joint Chapel Hill and Orange Co. Memorial. Four locations were identified. The committee will explore the pros and cons of each location in the coming weeks.

Committee Reports

- Sculpture Visions/Juried Exhibitions Series

After extending the March 16 deadline for submission once, a total of 53 artists have applied (24 after the first deadline). Selection process will begin soon. 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

Parks Maintenance staff will realize CHPAC recommendations for the outdoor collection. Funding for *Around Town* conservator and Southern Community Park art features signage will be provided by sources outside the Cultural Arts Division budget. SCP's *Fire Ladder* and bird houses are tabled for now. Artists' repair/cleaning of Lightning Brown bench, *Promethean Honor Guard*, and *Sharing the Education* to be arranged.

- Artist in School Residency

Jeannette Brossart's residency was completed at Glenwood Elementary School. The installation *Migration: What we bring with us is also up*. There will be an opening ceremony with the students on April 10. The project involved 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 Culture Mill held beat making workshops and performances from March 16th – 22nd featuring area teens and musicians visiting from Portobello, Panama. The week culminated in a performance at Flyleaf Books March 22nd. Final materials, including audio & visual documentation of events and works, to be submitted.

- Scrapel Hill

Applications to participate in Scrapel Hill VI exhibition at U Mall in the fall have been received. A committee to review and select up to 12 artist will meet on April 21.