



MECKLENBURG COUNTY  
North Carolina



*Nestled Hive* Re:Site Studio, 2020. Eastway Regional Recreation Center  
Photo Credit: Basic Cable



ARTS & SCIENCE  
COUNCIL

## ASC + Public Art Commission Annual Board of County Commissioner's Report Fiscal Year 2026

# PUBLIC ART COMMISSION FISCAL YEAR 2026



**LIZ RICHARDSON**  
(Appointee – Mecklenburg County - 1<sup>st</sup> Term Ends 2029)  
Professional Category: Education



**ANDREW MARCO**  
(Appointee – Mecklenburg County – 1<sup>st</sup> Term ends 2027)  
Professional Category: Business



**Erin Taylor**  
(Appointee – Mecklenburg County – 2<sup>nd</sup> Term ends 2031)  
Professional Category: Community



**DR. DAVID GALL, CHAIR**  
(Appointee – City of Charlotte – 2<sup>nd</sup> Term ends 2028)  
Professional Category: Community



**NINA FORD JACKSON**  
(Appointee – City of Charlotte – 1<sup>st</sup> Term ends 2026)  
Professional Category: Education



**LAUREN HARKEY**  
(Appointee – City of Charlotte – 2<sup>nd</sup> Term ends 2027)  
Professional Category: Business



**HILARY BURT**  
(Appointee – ASC – 1<sup>st</sup> Term ends 2027)  
Professional Category: Art + Design



**DR. KEITH CRADLE**  
(Appointee – ASC – 1<sup>st</sup> Term ends 2027)  
Professional Category: Art + Design



**John Corso-Esquivel**  
(Appointee – ASC – 2<sup>nd</sup> Term ends 2031)  
Professional Category: Art + Design

Background image: Stern, John Grade, Marsh Park, 2021  
Photo Credit- John Grade



ARTS & SCIENCE  
COUNCIL

## Public Art Commission Responsibilities

Recommend the Annual Work Plan to the Board of County Commissioners

Chair the Artist Selection Panels

Review and approve Artist Selection Panel recommendations

Approve all public art designs for Mecklenburg County

Represent the PAC at community meetings, dedications and special events

Ensure community outreach and citizen participation in the public art program

Monitor the overall development of the Public Art Collection-ensure that local and regional artist representation, balance over time, with respect to ethnicity and gender of artists selected, styles of expression, media and genre





*Balancing Act. Daily Tous Les Jours. 2020. First Ward Park.*

## PUBLIC ART PROCESS

Fund allocation from County  
with determination of sites

Artist Selection

Design Development &  
Community Meetings

Fabrication & Installation

Final Acceptance



## Public Art Program: Facts and Statistics

ASC Program Management for the:

- County
  - City
  - Airport
- 
- Mecklenburg County 1% For Art Ordinance adopted on December 17, 2002.
  - Ordinance appropriates 1% of eligible capital improvement project funds for public art. 1% allocations are split 85% for Art Fees and 15% for ASC Administrative Fees.
  - ASC Scope: Planning, artist selection, contracting, community engagement, facilitation of fabrication and installation.
  - **210** Completed Projects to Date (County, City, Private)
  - Total Mecklenburg County Investment: **\$7,957,093+**
  - Total Mecklenburg County Projects: **95**
  - Total North Carolina Artists Commissioned for Mecklenburg County Projects: **52**

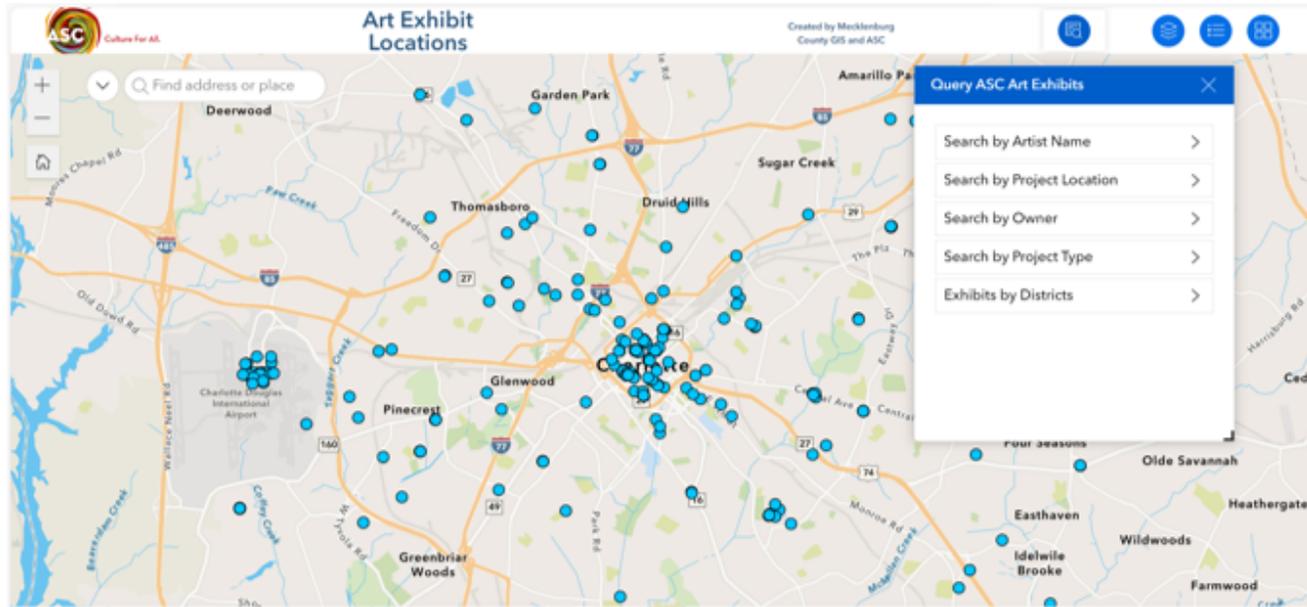


*Crop Rotations. Jill Anholt. 2022.*  
Northern Regional Recreation Center.  
Photo Credit: Mitchell Kearney Photography

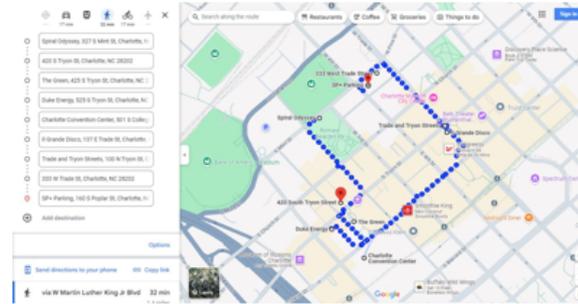


## Charlotte-Mecklenburg Public Art Collection Mapping

ASC partnered with **Mecklenburg County Geospatial Information Services** to map the public art collections of Mecklenburg County and the City of Charlotte. This online tool allows users to explore the **210** current artworks created through the **County and City Percent for Art Ordinances**, as well as search for artworks based on specific queries.



## Volunteer Docent Led Public Art Tours



Uptown Charlotte Tour Route

ASC Public Art offered volunteer opportunities to serve as public tour docents. Training was provided for docents to lead a small group of individuals through Uptown Charlotte, stopping at various public artworks and providing background information for each work.

Several of the projects included in this tour were managed by ASC and represents an artist's collaboration with communities. ASC believes that public art is an excellent means of accentuating the unique character and history of our diverse communities. It's an accessible form of art that plays a critical role in creating a sense of belonging.





# Mecklenburg County In-progress Public Art Projects

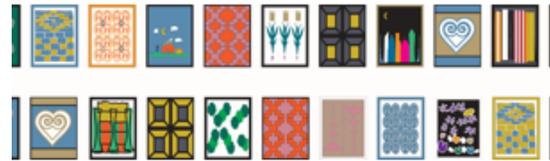


## Irwin Creek Greenway

**Location:** 6000 Statesville Rd (Nevin Park)  
**Art Budget:** \$102,000  
**Project Scope:** Free-standing sculpture  
**Anticipated Install:** Spring 2026  
**Artist:** Rachel Dickey, Local Artist



Artist's Final Design Rendering (detail)



Acrylic tile design samples (detail)

## Main Library

**Location:** 310 N. Tryon St  
**Art Budget:** \$460,700  
**Project Scope:** Grand lobby wall artwork  
**Anticipated Install:** Summer 2026  
**Artist:** Tiff Massey



## Long Creek Greenway

**Location:** 9841 Northlake Centre Parkway  
**Art Budget:** \$131,750  
**Project Scope:** Free-standing sculpture  
**Anticipated Install:** Spring 2026  
**Artist:** Studio KCA/Jason Klimoski



## Spirit Square Garden Walk

**Location:** 301 N. Tryon St  
**Art Budget:** \$340,000  
**Project Scope:** Free-standing sculpture  
**Anticipated Install:** Winter 2027  
**Artist:** Thomas Schmidt, Local Artist

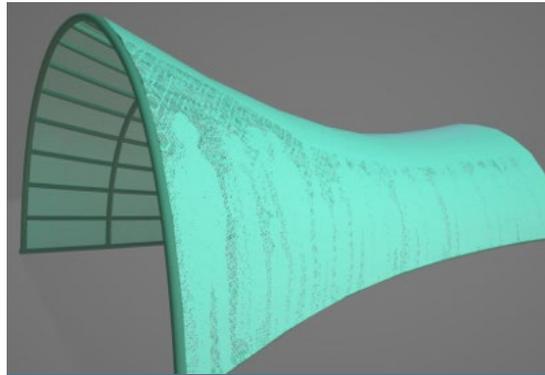


# Mecklenburg County In-progress Public Art Projects



## Park Rd Park

**Location:** 6220 Park Rd  
**Art Budget:** \$70,173  
**Project Scope:** Free-standing sculpture  
**Anticipated Install:** Spring 2026  
**Artist:** Oliver Lewis, Local/Regional A. D.



## Latta Place

**Location:** 5225 Sample Rd  
**Art Budget:** \$121,957  
**Project Scope:** Integrated design  
**Anticipated Install:** Spring 2027  
**Artist:** Maxwell Emcays



## Discovery Place Nature Museum

**Location:** 1658 Sterling Rd  
**Art Budget:** \$115,600  
**Project Scope:** Site integrated sculpture  
**Anticipated Install:** Spring 2026  
**Artist:** Walter Hood/Hood Design Studio

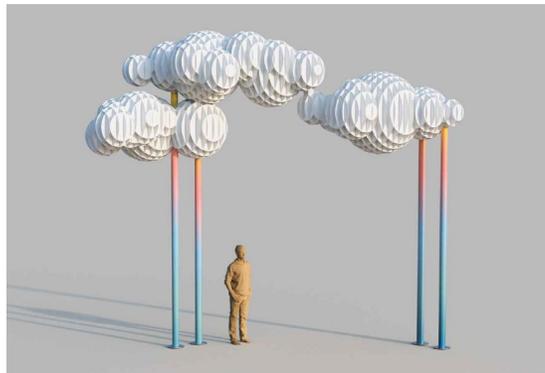


## Ezell Park

**Location:** 4101 Mintwood Rd, Mint Hill  
**Art Budget:** \$122,501 (\$76,100+\$49,401)  
**Project Scope:** Integrated, free-standing sculp.  
**Anticipated Install:** Spring 2026  
**Artist:** Meredith Connelly, Local/Regional A. D.

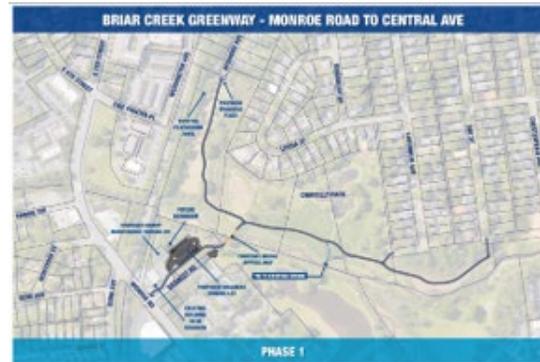


# Mecklenburg County In-progress Public Art Projects



## Eastland Park

**Location:** 6000 Statesville Rd (Nevin Park)  
**Art Budget:** \$102,000  
**Project Scope:** Free-standing sculpture  
**Anticipated Install:** Spring 2026  
**Artist:** Rachel Dickey, Local Artist



## Briar Creek Greenway

**Location:** Central Ave to Monroe Rd  
**Art Budget:** \$96,281  
**Project Scope:** Integrated sculptures  
**Anticipated Install:** Fall 2026  
**Artist:** TBD (Regional Artist Directory)



## East Community Resource Center

**Location:** Cagle Rd  
**Art Budget:** \$963,050  
**Project Scope:** Free-standing sculpture series  
**Anticipated Install:** Summer 2029  
**Artist:** TBD



## Sugaw Creek Park

**Location:** 943 W. Sugar Creek Rd  
**Art Budget:** \$160,459  
**Project Scope:** Free-standing sculpture  
**Anticipated Install:** Summer 2027  
**Artist:** TBD

# Mecklenburg County Completed Public Art Projects



ARTS & SCIENCE  
COUNCIL



Project: Naomi Drenan Recreation Center  
Title: "Generations of Growth"  
Location: 750 Beal St  
District: County – 5, City - 6  
Art Budget: \$63,750  
Project Scope: Exterior Mural  
Media: Exterior acrylic paint, spray paint, anti-graffiti sealant  
Category: Park and Recreation  
Installed: August 2025



Bree Stallings, Local Artist  
Regional Artist Directory

#### Artist's Statement:

The motifs chosen are the visual interpretation of the community's feedback representing the sunshine after a tumultuous storm; planting, growing and harvesting of food to share. There are multi-generational learning experiences included in the design as well as raindrops/tears fertilizing the soil making room for new prosperity. In addition, silhouettes of recreational activities that occur at the center are present, creating a place for safety, experimentation and community building.

## Fiscal Year 2026 Public Art Planning

| CIP Project                                    | Site Address                  | 1% Allocation | 85% Art Budget | Notes |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|----------------|-------|
| Colonel Francis Beatty Park                    | 4330 Weddington Rd, Matthews  | \$20,093      | \$17,079       |       |
| McDowell Greenway                              | Gilead Rd to Beatties Ford Rd | \$190,859     | \$162,230      |       |
| Bryant Park                                    | 1701 W Morehead St            | \$96,528      | \$82,049       |       |
| Ribbon Walk Nature Preserve                    | 4601 Nevin Rd                 | \$117,811     | \$100,139      |       |
| Rozelles Ferry and Hay Market Nature Preserves | Mt. Island Lake               | \$74,573      | \$63,387       |       |



# Further Information:

## Staff Contacts:

### Todd Stewart

Vice President, Public Art  
704-335-3273

[todd.stewart@artsandscience.org](mailto:todd.stewart@artsandscience.org)

### Randella Davis

Program Director, Public Art  
704-335-3262

[randella.davis@artsandscience.org](mailto:randella.davis@artsandscience.org)

### Justin Hicks

704-335-3059  
Program Officer, Public Art

[justin.hicks@artsandscience.org](mailto:justin.hicks@artsandscience.org)

### ASC Website:

<https://www.artsandscience.org/>

### ASC Public Art:

<https://www.artsandscience.org/programs/for-community/public-art/>

### Calls to Artists:

<https://www.artsandscience.org/resources-for/artists/calls-to-artists/>

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram **@ASCharlotte**





Thank You!

*Natural Rhythm. Georgie Nakima 2022. Independence Park.  
Photo Credit: Mitchell Kearney Photography*



ARTS & SCIENCE  
COUNCIL