

PUBLIC ART COMMISSION FISCAL YEAR 2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Spiral Odyssey. Richard Hunt. 2019. Romare Bearden Park.

March 6, 2024

PUBLIC ART COMMISSION FISCAL YEAR 2024



ROBERT COMBS*

(Appointee – Mecklenburg County – 2nd Term ends 2024)
Professional Category: Business



SEKOU COOKE

(Appointee – Mecklenburg County – 1st Term ends 2026)
Professional Category: Education



SUSAN TOMPKINS

(Appointee – Mecklenburg County – 2nd Term ends 2025)
Professional Category: Community



DR. DAVID GALL, VICE-CHAIR

(Appointee – City of Charlotte – 1st Term ends 2025)
Professional Category: Community



NINA FORD JACKSON

(Appointee – City of Charlotte – 1st Term ends 2026)
Professional Category: Education



LAUREN HARKEY, CHAIR

(Appointee – City of Charlotte – 1st Term ends 2024)
Professional Category: Business



RUBIE BRITT-HEIGHT*

(Appointee – ASC – 2nd Term ends 2024)
Professional Category: Art + Design



CHRIS COPE*

(Appointee – ASC – 2nd Term ends 2024)
Professional Category: Art + Design



IRENE VOGELSONG

(Appointee – ASC – 2nd Term ends 2025)
Professional Category: Art + Design

* Commissioners completing their second consecutive term

Background Image: *Aquifer*. Masayuki Nagase. 2010. Little Sugar Creek Greenway.

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

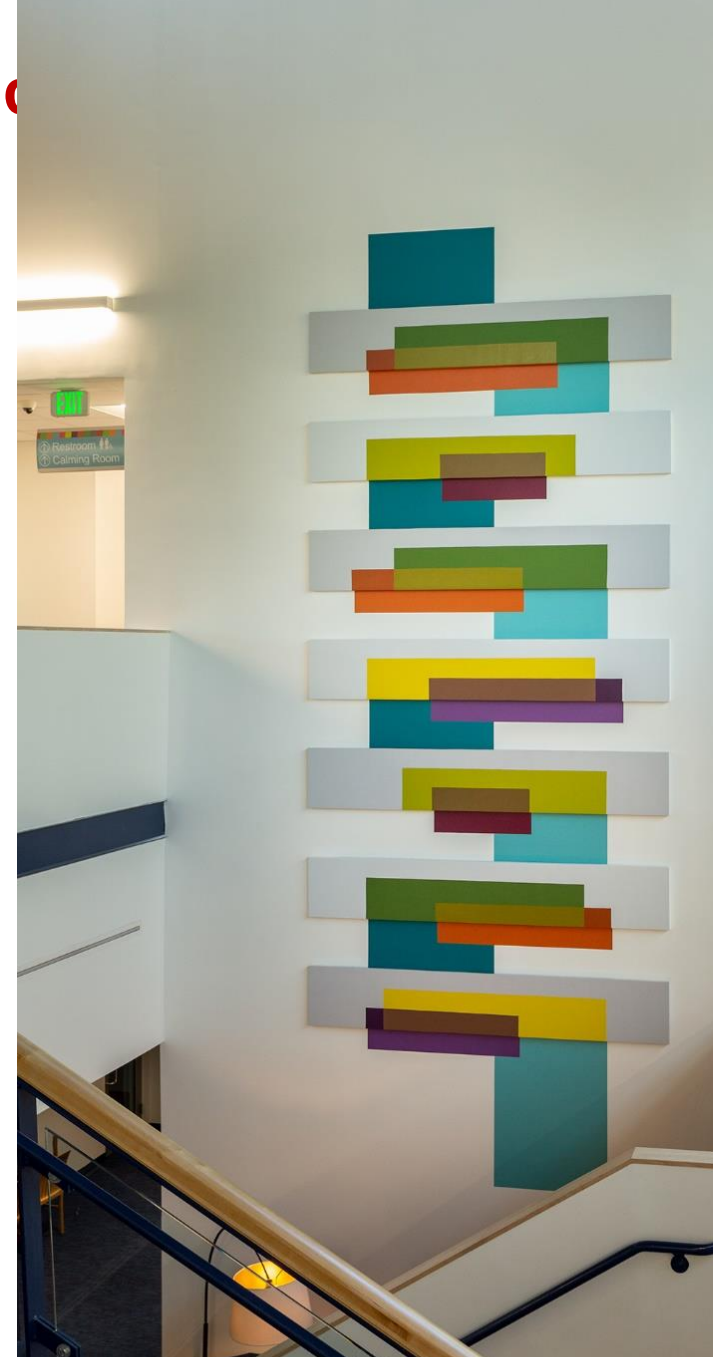
Ensure community outreach and citizen participation in the public art program

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

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 appropriate 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.
 - **195** Completed Projects to Date (County, City, Private)
 - Total Mecklenburg County Investment: **\$7,461,843+**
 - Total Mecklenburg County Projects: **86**
 - Total North Carolina Artists Commissioned for Mecklenburg County Projects: **47**

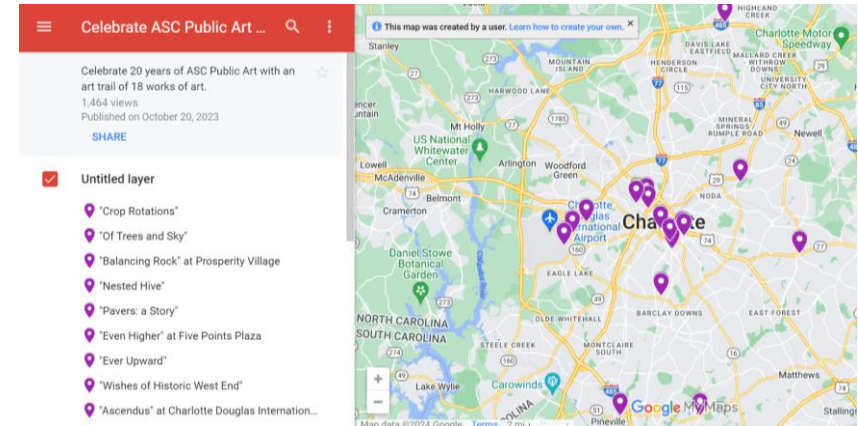


Open Stacks. Matha Clippinger. 2019.
North County Regional Library.

Artist Capacity Building and Community Outreach



Public Art Tours

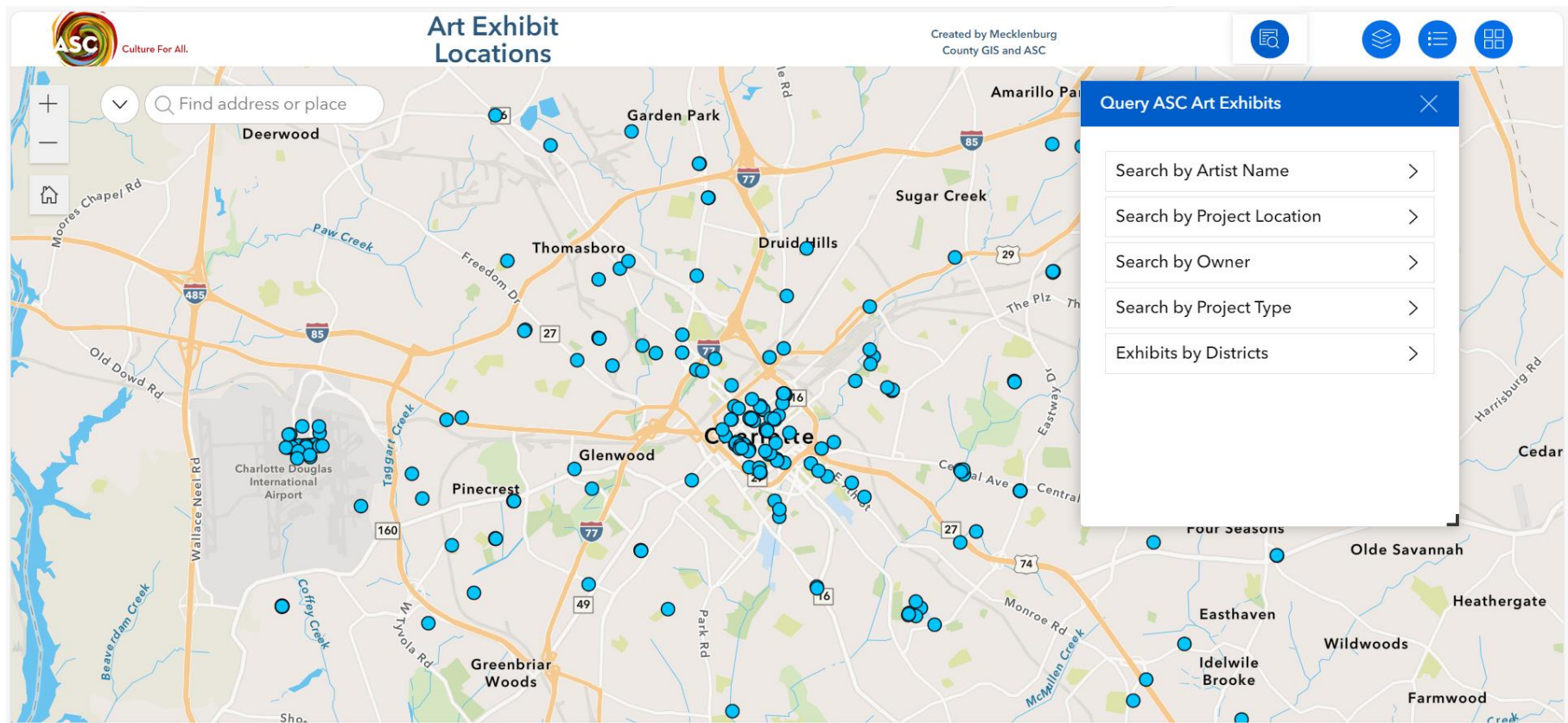


ASC partnered with **Art Walks CLT** to curate **free public art walking tours for the Historic West End and Little Sugar Creek Greenway**. Highlighting artworks in the Mecklenburg County Public Art Collection. Thanks to **Johnson C. Smith University** and **Partners For Parks** for their financial sponsorship of these tours.

ASC also partnered with Art Walks CLT to release a **digital, self-guided Public Art Trail**. This online guide showcases **18 artworks created by the Percent for Art Ordinances** of Mecklenburg County and the City of Charlotte – including **background info** on the ASC Public Art Program and ways that **community members can be involved**.

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 **195** current artworks created through the **County and City Percent for Art Ordinances**, as well as search for artworks based on specific queries.



Going Public: A Public Art Incubator

ASC partnered with **Lowes** to host Going Public: A Public Art Incubator. This series **of 3 workshops**, led by ASC staff, trained **8 Mecklenburg County** based artists on best practices for **applying for public art commissions, community engagement strategies, and project management for public artists.**



FY25 Regional Artist Directory

The **ASC Regional Artist Directory** serves as an internal resource to identify **North and South Carolina artists** eligible for public art opportunities with budgets of **\$85,000 or less**. The Public Art Commission (PAC) uses this directory to match artists with opportunities commensurate with skills and experience necessary for specific project scope. ASC also provides **professional development opportunities** for artists included in the directory.

The fiscal year 2023 – 2025 Regional Artist Directory includes **62** NC and SC based artists. **16 Mecklenburg County based artists** were commissioned through this directory in the fiscal year 2023.

Marek Ranis
(Regional Artist
Directory Artist).

Diver. Artist's
Schematic Design for
Mecklenburg County
Flood Markers.



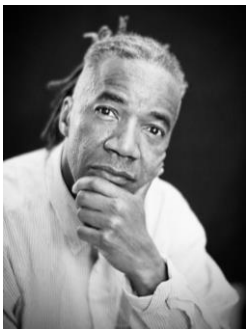
**Mecklenburg County
In-Progress Public Art Projects**



Project:	Discovery Place Nature Museum
Location:	1658 Sterling Rd
District:	County – 5 City – 1
Art Budget:	\$115,600
Project Scope:	Site integrated sculpture
Media:	Milled lumber, painted steel
Category:	Park and Recreation
Status:	Fabrication
CIP:	Fiscal Year 2019
Anticipated Install:	Summer 2025
PAC Panel Chair:	Rubie Britt-Height
Project Manager:	Todd Stewart



Artist's Final Design Rendering



Walter Hood, Artist
(Hood Design Studio, Principal)

Artist's Statement:

After multiple iterations of "The Trees" artwork within the United States and abroad, the final version will settle at Discovery Place Nature. Straddling the entrance walkway between the parking lot and aviary, "a Couple of Trees" serve as an entry gateway beacon for the museum. Whimsical and evocative, "a Couple of Trees", mark the evolution of the site ecology whilst welcoming visitors to the new museum and outdoor exhibits.

Through the reuse of salvaged wood branches from the Discovery Place site clearing and pruning process, "a Couple of Trees" memorializes the site's successional landscape. Reusing the same assembly pieces and logic as the past iterations, painted steel collars are stacked and connected together to create two vertical structures. Each steel collar unit is outfitted with steel appendages and connecting plates to attach the wood branches. The sculpture is dynamic, a renewable set of objects, that mark time in the new landscape.

Project: Main Library

Location: 310 N. Tryon ST

District: County – 4
City – 1

Art Budget: \$460,700

Project Scope: Grand Lobby Wall Artwork

Media: Wood Panels and Mirrored
Acrylic

Category: Asset & Facility Management
Charlotte Mecklenburg Library

Status: Fabrication

CIP: Fiscal Year 2020

Anticipated Install: Summer 2026

PAC Panel Chair: Chris Cope

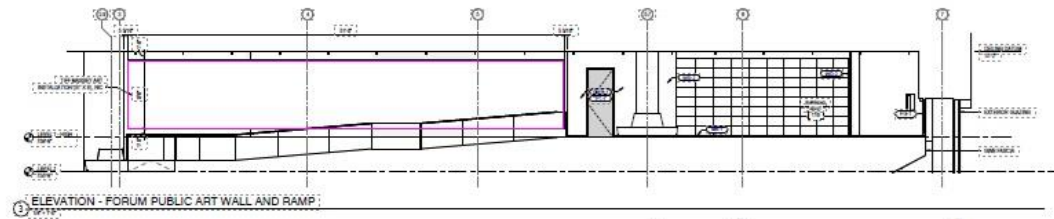
Project Manager: Todd Stewart



Artist's Final Design Rendering (detail)



Acrylic tile design samples (detail)



Art Wall Design Rendering



Tiff Massey, Artist

Artist's Statement:

This artwork is a reflection of my experience, inspired by the city's dynamic urban biology, the ever-evolving history etched into its streets, and the energy of its residents. Quilt Code 7 contributes to the design of its future, weaving threads of inspiration from my art practice into the fabric of the city. Quilt Codes are self-reflections, a mirror that holds not only my experiences but also the stories and histories of Charlotteans. "You," the residents of Charlotte, are integral to this artistic journey. Your hands, your stories, your unique perspectives become vital components of my work.

Project:	Ezell Farms Community Park
Location:	4101 Mintwood Road Mint Hill, NC
District:	County – 6 City – N/A
Art Budget:	\$73,100
Project Scope:	Potential site locations and project considerations have been identified: free-standing sculpture, seating, railing, environmental art, and wayfinding elements.
Media:	TBD
Category:	Park and Recreation
Status:	Schematic Design
CIP:	Fiscal Year 2021
Anticipated Install:	Spring 2024
PAC Panel Chair:	Lauren Harkey
Project Manager:	Randella Davis



Wings. Artist's Concept Design for Mecklenburg County Ezell Farms Community Park.



Meredith Connelly, Local Artist
Regional Artist Directory

Artist's Statement:

Wings is based on the wing segments of an American Painted Lady butterfly, and will use translucent materials to engage the light of the sun, casting patterned shadows that will move and shift as the day passes. A series of three wing-like structures will be embedded into the ground, appearing to emerge from the earth. Inspiration for this concept came in layers in association with the pollinators that inhabit the land, the gloriously structural elements of butterfly wings, and the ancient approach of using the sun to tell time.

Project:	Irwin Creek Greenway
Location:	6000 Statesville Rd (Nevin Community Park)
District:	County – 3 City – 2
Art Budget:	\$102,000
Project Scope:	Free-Standing Sculpture
Media:	Steel, galvanized wire rope, thermoformed Acrylite Premium
Category:	Park and Recreation
Status:	Ready for Installation
CIP:	Fiscal Year 2020
Anticipated Install:	Summer 2024
PAC Panel Chair:	Lia Newman
Project Manager:	Randella Davis



Artist's Final Design Rendering



Artist's Final Design Rendering, Detail



Rachel Dickey, Local Artist

Artist's Statement:

Irwin Creek Greenway public artwork titled, *Suspended Offering*, sympathetically responds to its natural surroundings by deploying a custom fabricated wire canopy with 600 transparent collection vessels suspended from below. The canopy provides a structure that blends with the natural landscape by providing unobscured views to the surrounding trees lining the greenway. Hung from the canopy, 600 vessels collect morning dew and fallen items from the trees above, as a means of coexisting with the natural surroundings. The vessels gather and adapt to the changing seasons and the natural environment, as they collect and highlight with a transparent glow, frost in the winter, fallen leaves in autumn, raindrops in the spring, and sprigs of green in summer. Artist collaboration with design team for plaza design.

Project:	Torrence Creek Tributary
Location:	Underpass at Trailhead Entrance - Huntersville Gateway Park and Ride Huntersville, NC
District:	County – 1 City – NA
Art Budget:	\$255,000
Project Scope:	Programmed Static Lighting in Pedestrian Tunnel
Media:	GoBo Projectors and Colorblast Powercore gen4 Lighting Fixtures
Category:	Park and Recreation
Status:	Fabrication
CIP:	Fiscal Year 2020
Anticipated Install:	Spring/Summer 2024
PAC Panel Chair:	Robert Combs
Project Manager:	Randella Davis



Adam Buente, Artist
(Project One Studio, Principal)



Artist's Final Design Renderings



Artist's Statement:

State of Flow is inspired by water – the rivers and bodies of water of Huntersville. The design's abstracted flowing lines and glowing sparks are taken directly from Lake Norman, Torrence Creek, and McDowell Creek. Water from Lake Norman drove the development of the city in the late 1900s and it drives the overall layout and plan of "The Vine," Huntersville's Greenway Trail system. Recreation, life, and prosperity are, in a way, products of the lake, rivers, and streams of this region. In addition, the artwork's lighting design will increase visibility and improve pedestrian security, while meeting ADA accessibility standards.

Project:	Druid Hills Park
Location:	2801 Poinsett ST
District:	County – 3 City – 1
Art Budget:	\$33,500
Project Scope:	Integrated Low-relief mural and linear street mural
Media:	Digital print on custom ceramic tiles; Performed Thermoplastic
Category:	Park and Recreation
Status:	Fabrication
CIP:	Fiscal Year 2020
Anticipated Install:	Spring 2024
PAC Panel Chair:	Rubie Britt-Height
Project Manager:	Randella Davis



Artist's Final Design Rendering, Pavilion Mural



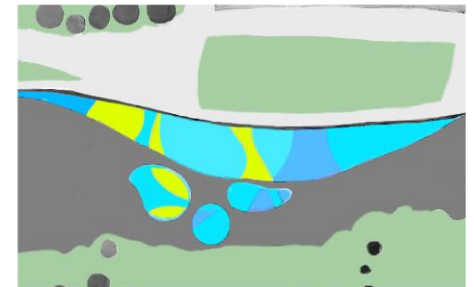
Mural Details



Mural Details



Pavilion Location Rendering



Artist's Final Design Rendering,
Linear Rodey Ave Mural



Monique Luck, Local Artist

Artist's Statement:

The tree represents the growing and thriving community with a wall flowing with colors and images representing the history and the evolving vibrant community in Druid Hills. The image of the tree in the mural is taken from a photo of a tree in the center of the park. Its roots run deep, as deep as the sense of community in Druid Hills. The vibrant colors reflect the vibrancy of the community. Within the collaged mural are images of hands throughout the tree. Lifting the community from its roots up. The Street Mural represents water. Water nourishes the park, the trees, the garden, and in turn nourishes the community as it evolves and grows.

Project: Storm Water Flood Makers

Location: Multiple Locations

District: County – 4
City – 2

Art Budget: \$39,000

Project Scope: Free-standing Sculpture

Media: Steel, paint

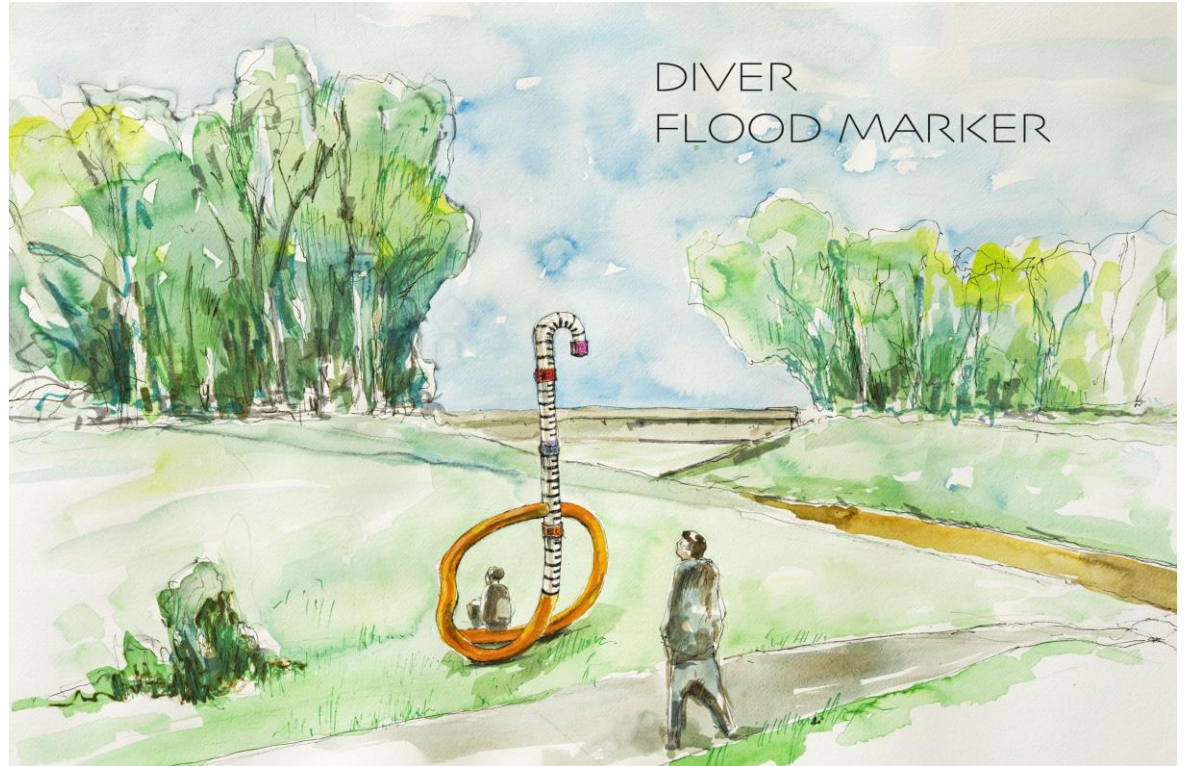
Category: Park & Recreation

Status: Final Design

Anticipated Install: Summer 2024

PAC Panel Chair: Rubie Britt-Height

Project Manager: Todd Stewart



Artist's Schematic Design Rendering



Marek Ranis, Local Artist
RAD Directory Artist

Artist's Statement:

Diver, a Flood Marker for the Charlotte Mecklenburg Water services is intended to warn and educate Mecklenburg County residents about the possible floods in their community. It is important to bring attention to those issues and communicate the risks, thus my project is designed to inspire people's imagination with some sense of whimsy while addressing serious issues. The purpose of this flood marker is to create memory, provide a compelling visual image and an aesthetic experience, while increasing awareness and educating the public.

The Diver flood marker was designed to serve multiple locations, with its universal quality of aesthetics it would serve its purpose in all potential settings, First Diver will be installed in Frasier Park.

Project: Long Creek Greenway

Location: 9841 Northlake Centre Parkway

District: County – 1
City – 4

**Art
Budget:** \$131,750

**Project
Scope:** Free-standing Sculpture

Media: TBD

Category: Park and Recreation

Status: Contract Execution

**Anticipated
Install:** Fall/Winter 2024

PAC Panel Chair: Lauren Harkey and David Gall

Project Manager: Todd Stewart



Studio KCA/Jason Klimoski

Studio KCA: artwork examples.



Studio KCA/Jason Klimoski

Description:

The artist will create freestanding artwork/s to be sited in a designated space between the vehicular roadway and the greenway trail. This location will be highly visible to vehicular traffic and pedestrians. The artwork will serve as a wayfinding element, acting as an unofficial trailhead to the Long Creek Greenway Northlake Parkway Centre entrance.

Studio KCA/Jason Klimoski has been commissioned for this opportunity.

Project: Main Library + Spirit Square

Location: Duke Energy Theater Courtyard
(310 North Tryon Street)

District: County – 4
City – 1

Art Budget: \$340,000

Project Scope: Immersive light and/or sound experiences

Media: TBD

Category: Asset and Facility Management

Status: Contract Execution

Anticipated Install: 2025

PAC Panel Chair: Chris Cope

Project Manager: Todd Stewart



Main Library and Spirit Square Rendering



Soo Sunny Park: artwork examples



Soo Sunny Parks

Description:

The Duke Energy Theater Courtyard is an open-air courtyard occupies a space that evokes the multiple intersections of life, history, and place of Charlotte. The space has direct adjacency to, and visibility of, the shared lobby with the New Main Library and the historic exterior façade of the Duke Energy Theater.

There is great potential for experiences that are immersive, site- specific, and flexible to accommodate other programs and activities. Artists with experience working in a broad range of materials, including but not limited to light and sound, and processes will be considered for this opportunity.

Soo Sunny Parks has been commissioned for this opportunity.

Project: Park Rd Park

Location: 6220 Park Rd

District: County – 5
City – 6

Art Budget: \$70,173

Project Scope: Functional/Seating

Media: TBD

Category: Park and Recreation

Status: Concept Design

Anticipated Install: Winter 2025

PAC Panel Chair: Robert Combs

Project Manager: Todd Stewart



Oliver Lewis: artwork examples



Oliver Lewis, Local Artist
RAD Directory Artist

Description:

A proposed +/- 4,500 square foot indoor pavilion is being designed to replace the old restroom/concession building on the peninsula overlooking the lake at Park Road Park.

The selected artist will work with the ASC, Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation, C Design, and the local community to create functional seating elements to complement the pavilion design and natural environment. The artwork should highlight the use of park and recreation facilities and encourage a sense of community pride. The selected artist will be expected to engage with both Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation staff and area residents to develop the concept for their work.

Project: Naomi Drenan Recreation Center

Location: 750 Beal St

District: County – 5
City – 6

Art Budget: \$63,750

Project Scope: Exterior Mural

Media: TBD

Category: Park and Recreation

Status: Concept Design

Anticipated Install: Spring 2025

PAC Panel Chair: Robert Combs

Project Manager: Randella Davis



Naomi Drenan Recreation Center



Bree Stallings: artwork examples



Bree Stallings, Local Artist
RAD Directory Artist

Description:
Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation is currently in the design process to renovate and improve Naomi Drenan Recreation Center as well as complete improvements to Grayson Park and the existing Grayson Skatepark.

The selected artist will work with the ASC, Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation, and the local community to create a mural approximately 24’ high by 26’ long on a wall located at the front façade of the building. The mural should encourage the use of the Naomi Drenan Recreation Center by those who live, work and play in area.

**Mecklenburg County
Completed Public Art Projects**



Project: Ella B. Scarborough Community Resource Center

Location: 1430 Stitt Rd

District: County – 3
City – 1

Art Budget: \$451,350

Project Scope: Free-Standing Sculpture

Media: Fiber Glass, Resin, Polyurethane and Tnemec Paint

Category: Asset & Facility Management



CIP: Fiscal Year 2019

Installed: June 2023

PAC Panel Chair: Irene Vogelsong

Project Manager: Randella Davis



Nova Jiang, Artist

Artist's Statement:

Cloud Lilies is inspired by the bulb of the Carolina Lily and the process of groundwater moving into plants and then transpiring into the atmosphere. Seats inspired by lily bulbs create an inviting space, which is sheltered by upside-down forms of the bulbs, suggesting clouds. The stem-like columns evoke the form of a pavilion. The lily bulb symbolizes the potential for growth, as well as the hidden struggles of others. The sculpture follows the tenets of trauma-informed design by using calming colors and soft forms. It aims to suggest comfort and dignity by creating a welcoming space for people to gather and rest.

Seating Detail

Project: Stewart Creek Tributary 2 Mural

Location: Greenway Underpass near
Coronet Way and Norwood Dr

District: County – 2
City – 2

Art Budget: \$25,500 (Non-ordinance)

Project Scope: Underpass Mural

Media: Duramax Exterior Acrylic Paint,
Aerosol Paint; VandlGuard Non-
Sacrificial Anti-Graffiti Coating

Category: Park and Recreation

Installed: January 2024

PAC Panel Chair: Rubie Britt-Height

Project Manager: Randella Davis



Abel Jackson, Local Artist
RAD Directory Artist



Artist's Statement:

Central to my artistic focus is an exploration of the legacy and resiliency of the Westside community. Engaging with the community directly has fueled the creation of a piece that serves as a visual tribute to the families who call the Westside home. This artwork is thoughtfully divided into three sections, each unfolding a narrative from left to right. The sections of the mural pay homage to the rich history and pride of the West End community, symbolize the unification of diverse Westside communities, emphasize the ability to cultivate sustenance, home ownership and the beauty of the land, as well as the enduring spirit of the community.

Fiscal Year 2025 Public Art Planning

CIP Project	Site Address	1% Allocation	15% Admin Fee	85% Art Budget	Notes
Community Resource Center (EAST)	TBD	\$646,561	\$96,984	\$549,777	
Community Resource Center (SOUTHWEST)	TBD	\$586,212	\$87,932	\$498,280	
Government District	Various Locations	\$406,000	\$60,900	\$345,100	Pooled funds from multiple projects
Eastland Park	5471 Central Ave	\$123,457	\$18,519	\$104,938	
Latta Place	5225 Sample Rd, Huntersville	\$112,385	\$16,858	\$95,527	
Wallace Pruitt Recreation Center	501 S Bruns Ave, Charlotte	\$36,907	\$5,536	\$31,371	

Further Information:

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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 **@ASCCharlotte**





We Hold These Truths and Let Justice Like a River Roll. Robin Brailsford, artist and Fred Chappell, poet. 2007. Mecklenburg County Courthouse Walkway and Interior.

Thank You!