

RALEIGH ARTS COMMISSION 2015-2016 WORK PLAN

VISION: The Raleigh Arts Commission is the leading force in transforming the City of Raleigh into a city that is defined both locally and nationally as the Southern Capital of Arts and Culture.

MISSION (from 1977 ordinance): The Raleigh Arts Commission is the official municipal advisory body on the arts broadly defined, which will promote, coordinate and strengthen public programs to further the cultural development of the City.

2014-2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Recommended and managed \$1.67 million in per capita funding to 32 arts organizations.
- Launched a new capacity building program for Raleigh arts organizations with a focus on strengthening community engagement practices.
- Debuted the highly popular *Banjostand* public art project with IBMA 2014.
- Unveiled the *Art Along Blount Street* public art project, which celebrates African American history in South Park – East Raleigh.
- Presented the fifth *Art on the Move* public art project, on GoRaleigh buses, which included first-ever student-designed artwork.
- Accepted into the Municipal Art Collection completed half-percent for art sculptures by Ilan Averbuch (*Communicating Vessels* at the Downtown Remote Operations Facility), Chris Fennell (*Hoops Playing Hoops* at Halifax Park) and Pete Beeman (*Gear Drive* at NE Remote Operations Facility).
- Posted online some 300 of the more-than 525 works of art in the Municipal Art Collection.
- Collaborated with the Durham Arts Council, Orange County Arts Commission and United Arts to appoint James Maxey 2015 Piedmont Laureate and organized more than 20 literary events throughout the region.
- Celebrated more than one hundred K-12 student artists and their teachers with the Gifts of Gold visual art exhibition at the Duke Energy Center for the Arts.
- Presented the 2014 Medal of Arts to four leaders, one organization and one business, the most ambitious production in its 27-year history, hosted by Ira David Wood III.
- Presented four exhibitions at the Block Gallery including the National Arts Program exhibition featuring artwork by City of Raleigh and Wake County employees and their families.
- Accessioned 36 artworks into the Municipal Art Collection, including prints of various Raleigh greenways by Autumn Cobeland and selected works shown at the Block Gallery.
- Conserved 8 works in the Municipal Art Collection including Matt McConnell's Pullen Park *Weathervane* and David Benson's *Acorn*.

2015-2016 GOALS

LEADERSHIP: Lead the effort to make Raleigh the Southern Capital of Arts and Culture.

- Complete the Raleigh Arts Plan for incorporation into the City's Comprehensive Plan, in partnership with the Public Art and Design Board, the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Department, and the Raleigh Arts Plan Steering Committee.
- Ensure that adequate resources are in place and are being allocated strategically to implement the Raleigh Arts Plan and establish Raleigh as a national leader in arts and culture.
- Communicate the value and benefits of the arts to the citizens of Raleigh and City leadership and advocate to City Council to continue increasing our City's investment in the arts.
- Recommend allocations of per capita funds to exemplary non-profit arts organizations.

PARTNERSHIPS: Become a visible resource and valued partner for artistic, cultural, and business organizations to advance arts and culture in Raleigh.

- Communicate the compounding impacts of City of Raleigh investments in the arts including economic development.
- Communicate through presence at festivals, workshops and awareness programs the abundance of opportunities for arts enjoyment, arts education and hands-on classes for all ages.
- Cultivate key business and civic alliances and partnerships to advance the City of Raleigh's vision and strategic plan for arts and culture.
- Cultivate program partnerships with community arts and education organizations.

PROGRAMS: Identify, support, and invest in organizations and programs that yield the greatest cultural, financial and social return on investments for the Raleigh community.

- **Grants:** Administer the Arts Grant program, which includes updating and revising the grants process as needed to streamline and improve it, from grant guidelines through application submissions to final reports and close-out; reviewing and evaluating submitted Arts Grant applications; recommending grant awards by the Commission Chair to City Council; and supporting arts organizations through capacity building and training initiatives, such as workshops and the provision of resources on best practices.
- **Public Art:** Advise and support temporary projects including the IBMA public art project, *Art-On-The-Move* CAT bus project, *Art on City Plaza* exhibition, *Before I Die* interactive art exhibit, and Blount Street Corridor project. Identify and review potential public art projects.
- **Municipal Art Collection:** Continue building, maintaining and conserving the Municipal Art Collection. Create a collection development plan.
- **Public Programs:**
 - Medal of Arts: Honor individuals and organizations that have made extraordinary achievements in the arts in Raleigh in a public event in October 2016.

- Exhibitions: Present art exhibits of local artists in the Block Gallery at the Raleigh Municipal Building and continue to develop the new location-for the Block2 street video series.
- Piedmont Laureate program: Collaborate with United Arts of Raleigh and Wake County, Durham Arts Council and the Orange County Arts Council to present literary advocacy programs featuring the Piedmont Laureate.
- Support art education projects in the community and at the Pullen and Sertoma Arts Centers.
- Promote and support GRCVB's comprehensive arts calendar at www.visitraleigh.com.