2017/18 Program Report

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Enzina Marrari
Curator of Public Art
Municipality of Anchorage
Public Art Program
Municipality of Anchorage
Public Art program
1% for art

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Public Art Program Description

The Public Art Program oversees the acquisition of public art in the Municipality of Anchorage. The program currently acquires artwork through the 1% for Art process and also provides public education and outreach, training and development opportunities for artists, conservation and maintenance of the program’s artworks in the Municipality, and actively works with other organizations and agencies to increase accessibility to the arts within the Municipality and in Alaska. The Public Art Program strives to activate and revitalize our public spaces while showing care and pride in our community.

The 1% for Art program was established in the Anchorage Municipality in 1978. This followed a 1963 ruling of the federal government establishing that all new and remodeled federal buildings dedicate a .5% of their construction costs to acquire permanent artwork for those sites.

In 1975 Alaska became the 10th state to pass a law that required that 1% of construction costs be used to purchase and permanently place artwork in all state-funded public buildings, and in 1978 Anchorage passed its own 1% for Art law. By 1981 artwork was being produced and placed in public buildings throughout the city.

The Public Art Program oversees the 1% for Art ordinance 7.40 which is part of the MOA Code and the program is currently housed in the Public Works Administration Offices. The Program has one full time staff member, the Curator of Public Art who is responsible for all public art related matters including the selection, purchasing, conservation, maintenance, collections, education, outreach, and day-to-day management of the public art collection.

The Program has consistently been acquiring artwork through its birth in 1981, and as of 2018, the program has accessioned 515 public works of art for a value of $14,745,655.

The Public Art Program and artwork acquired through the 1% for Art Ordinance is a Museum without walls. Many artworks appear on the exterior of buildings or facility sites providing an accessible viewing experience for all in the community. Public Art provides a visual context for the culture of our city.

In 2017/18, the program worked on increasing outreach and education opportunities as well developing new partnerships.
The Municipality of Anchorage increased the value of the 1% for Art collection by $602,225 in the 2017/18 year.

The 2017 new artwork was created by eleven artists; ten of which were new to the program. The new artwork was sited at seven locations throughout the Municipality this year including Girdwood Fire Station 41, Fire Station 9, Romig Middle School, Airport Heights Elementary, Z.J. Loussac Library, ML&P George M. Sullivan Power Plant, and the Harry J. McDonald Center.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Acquired</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.8.2017</td>
<td>Girdwood Fire Station 41 Renovation</td>
<td>Dawn Gerety</td>
<td>Risks and Rewards—A panoramic three wall and panel acrylic painting of a mountain scape located in the kitchen above the cabinets.</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.21.2017</td>
<td>Fire Station 9 Rebuild</td>
<td>Sean Mercer</td>
<td>FS9-TB-1-1—Artistic functional table in the kitchen. Laminated safety glass with a topographical satellite view of Anchorage, base made of man-made Neolith Iron Corten and Beton, and bronze and steel.</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.8.2017</td>
<td>Romig Middle School Renovation</td>
<td>Angelina Marina Heidel and Joel Heidel</td>
<td>Ethnounsis Portal—A 18’ x 30’ painted wall mural representing different elements of physics through imagery that speaks to string theory and Einstein’s laws of vibration.</td>
<td>$22,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.15.2017</td>
<td>Airport Heights Elementary Renovation</td>
<td>Jen Jolliff</td>
<td>Pathway to Discovery—Artwork for both the exterior front entry and interior hallway. 20 carved animal figures attached to the main hallway approx. 120’. The background wall will be painted with acrylic paint in keeping with the theme. The artist also designed a bright colored graphic that shows the animals in a vibrant garden theme that will be transferred into tile at the exterior front entry.</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.23.2017</td>
<td>Fire Station 9 Rebuild</td>
<td>Naomi Edelberg</td>
<td>Stained Glass panels along the transom and side glass panels of the entry way of the fire station with a companion piece in windows of the Fire Fighters’ Office. An abstracted interpretation of the surrounding environment.</td>
<td>$24,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.18.2017</td>
<td>Z.J. Loussac Library Renovation</td>
<td>Holly Nordham</td>
<td>Caribou and Raven—Design image depicting the Dena’ina story of Caribou and Raven for perforated metal screens. Artist also designed a book telling the story. Fabrication and installation were not responsibility of the artist.</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.10.2017</td>
<td>Z.J. Loussac Library Renovation</td>
<td>Richard Cawley Studios</td>
<td>Portal of Perception—Suspended sculpture in Entry Atrium. Metal sculpture utilizing LEDs, mirror, and reclaimed material. Sculpture presents the eye as the main portal receiving information representing through an infinity mirror. Tendril elements serve the sculpture as a mobile and present objects that are iconic to Alaska and reference knowledge.</td>
<td>$73,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.31.2017</td>
<td>Romig Middle School Renovation</td>
<td>Przemyslaw Kordys</td>
<td>Knowledge—Mixed media low relief cast square forms depicting different imagery relating to Romig Middle School and acquired from the Romig students’ drawings. The sculpture also includes two copper sculptures depicting teenagers studying. Located in the main hallway.</td>
<td>$22,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.29.2017</td>
<td>ML&amp;P George M. Sullivan Power Plant</td>
<td>Haddad/Drugan</td>
<td>Cosmic Rise—A large scale painted mural with a variety of superimposed images that change dynamically through darkness and light. Samoiloff Effect is utilized to create an appearance of animation. The lighting system is programmed to change day to day, season to season. Imagery depicts Ursa Major, sun rays, snow flakes, cells, and other elements representing energy.</td>
<td>$264,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.26.2017</td>
<td>Z.J. Loussac Library Renovation</td>
<td>Owen Tucker</td>
<td>LOOK—Painted mural on the wall of the Fairy Door located in the Kids’ Zone. Lobby side shows a realistically rendered Owl with the eye as the porthole window. Interior view depicts the same owl, but a mechanical version. Vinyl decals on the attached windows reference the shapes in primary colors.</td>
<td>$29,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.14.2017</td>
<td>Harry J. McDonald Center</td>
<td>Michael Conti</td>
<td>4 canvas photographic prints, 20” x 30”, in simple wood frames installed in the training room of the center.</td>
<td>$2,875</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Municipality of Anchorage increased the value of the 1% for Art collection by $602,225 in the 2017/18 year.

The 2018 new artwork was created by seven artists; five of which were new to the program. The new artwork was sited at five locations throughout the Municipality this year including Service High School, Airport Heights Elementary, Fire Station 9, Rabbit Creek Elementary, and the Mulcahy Change facility at the Anchorage Football Stadium.

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<td>2.07.2018</td>
<td>Service Grant Fraser Memorial Auditorium Renovation, Service High School</td>
<td>Austin Parkhill</td>
<td>RSIS Mural—An acrylic painting/mural on board for the Niche area of the Auditorium. The paintings are on Masonite and are part of the artist's MEG-Afuna series and shows a grouping of oversized cougars on the grounds of the school.</td>
<td>$17,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.11.2018</td>
<td>Airport Heights Elementary Renovation</td>
<td>Maureen Melville</td>
<td>Dream Big—12 stained glass windows on the interior windows of the Multipurpose room; art room, music room, and exterior facing.</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.28.2018</td>
<td>Fire Station 9 Rebuild</td>
<td>Will Koeppen</td>
<td>Untitled—Three landscape photographs. Two 24” x 36” and one 18” x 12”</td>
<td>$3,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.26.2018</td>
<td>Fire Station 9 Rebuild</td>
<td>Dawn Gerety</td>
<td>Three original acrylic paintings: “Winter Fat Tire Biking”, “Summer Surfing on the Bore tide”, and “Winter Downhill Skiing” All 40” x 30”</td>
<td>$2,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.06.2018</td>
<td>Rabbit Creek Elementary Renovation</td>
<td>Rebecca Brubaker</td>
<td>Two mixed metal assemblage pieces measuring 14” x 8”. Representing light and dark winter and summer; metal assemblages composed of found objects and cast objects. Cast bronze squirrels are also included in the piece and attached to the perforated metal school sign.</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.09.2018</td>
<td>Mulcahy Change Facility (Anchorage Football Stadium)</td>
<td>Alan Construction</td>
<td>The Competitors Monument—one brick colored stained concrete base monument as a memorial companion piece and base to the Competitors sculpture by Gerald Conaway.</td>
<td>$8,829</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Risks and Rewards
Dawn Gerety 2017
Fire Station 41

Cosmic Rise
Haddad/Drugan 2017
ML&P Geoge M. Sullivan Power Plant

FS9-TB-1-1
Sean Mercer 2017
Fire Station 9

Ethnouinis Portal
Angelina Marino Heidel and Joel Heidel 2017
Romig Middle School

Pathway to Discovery
Jen Jolliff 2017
Airport Heights Elementary

LOOK
Owen Tucker 2017
Z.J. Loussac Library

Four Untitled Photographs
Michael Conti 2017
Harry J. McDonald Center

Knowledge
Przemyslaw Kordys 2017
Romig Middle School

Untitled
Naomi Edelberg 2017
Fire Station 9

Caribou and Raven
Holly Nordlum 2017
Z.J. Loussac Library

Portal of Perception
Richard Cawley Studios 2017
Z.J. Loussac Library
1% for Art 2018 Artwork Images

RSHS Mural
Austin Parkhill 2018
Service High School

Dream Big
Maureen Melville 2018
Airport Heights Elementary

Ethnouns Portal
Angelina Marino Heidel and Joel Heidel 2018
Romig Middle School

Untitled series of three photographs
Will Koeppen 2018
Fire Station 9

Winter Fat Tire Biking (series of three paintings) proposal image
Dawn Gerety 2018
Fire Station 9

Untitled
Rebecca Brubaker 2018
Rabbit Creek Elementary

The Competitors Monument
Alan Construction 2018
Mulcahy Change Facility (Anchorage Football Stadium)
The Public Art Program and 1% for Art in the Municipality is now 40 years old. Of the 515 installations accessioned to the collection, 40% of the collection (187 installations) was commissioned before 1990. The conservation work needed for the collection is not fully funded, although staff continues to receive $20,000 in departmental funds to address the backlog of conservation work. Graffiti is cleaned expeditiously by Public Art Staff, and sometimes with the help of the Public Works maintenance staff or the Downtown Partnership and is not included in the total expenses spent on caring for Anchorage’s public art.

Funding conservation projects for public artwork is addressed around the nation to include a small percentage for conservation projects (a capital expenditure) within the 1% set aside provision. The Curator of Public Art continues to develop ways to maximize the use of current funds and increase the funding for conservation and maintenance.

During calendar year 2017/18, the Curator developed new partnerships to improve the conservation and maintenance of the collection. The Curator was able to secure a $10,000 Grant through the Atwood Foundation. This grant is to conduct an assessment and provide treatment recommendations for the collection that has not yet been assessed. Additionally, the Curator was able to secure an additional $50,000 through Capitol Projects to provide conservation and repair to specific allocated projects: Fish on C and Tudor, the fishing poles on 15th Ave., and the Spanish Memorial Cross. These funds will go into effect for the 2019 year.

The following Artworks received conservation or maintenance in 2017/18:

- Seward Sculpture—Gift to the City
  Loussac Library—cleaned
- Antony Gormley—Habitat
  Anchorage Museum, Graffiti cleaned twice
- Robert Pfitzenmeier—Crystal lattice—
  Graffiti cleaned—Anchorage Museum
- Celia Carl Anderson—Assent to Aeolis—removed and protected for storage
  Huffman Elementary School
- Sheila Wyne —Time Keeper—
  Refinished, sanded, painted, waxed
  Mirror Lake Elementary
- Loraine Alba—A Color Series
  Bear Valley Elementary—reinstallation
- Ike Hay- Red Sumi—
  Bear Valley Elementary - repair and reinstaliation
- Wanda Chin—Vuelo Suspended—
  clean and repair—
  Mears Middle School

- Keith Appel—Boreal Ballet—
  Northern Lights ABC
  New LED lighting upgrades and repair
- Gerald Conaway—The Competitors—
  cracks repaired & piece refinished
  Anchorage Football Stadium
- Michelle Stuart—Northern Gardens 1 & 2— assessed & treatment recommended
  ASD Nutrition Center
- Elizabeth Mapelli - All the Glitters is Not Gold— rust removed and prepped for reframing
  Downtown Parking Garage/Transit Center
- Paul Dungan—Six Figures—inspected and wrapped for stabilization
  Anchorage Cemetery
- Gail Rutter VanSlyke—Horst & Graben— repair weave—Mears Middle School
- Celia Carl Anderson—Untitled—cleaned and repaired frays—Spenard Rec center
Public Art plays a vital role in shaping our common spaces. Public art reflects our culture and identifies who we are as a community and is visual story telling; it provides us a sense of place, time, and identity. It promotes vitality and energizes the community. Additionally, artwork makes the street and public spaces come alive. Public art has an economic benefit to our community by employing artists, local fabricators, companies, and by attracting visitors. Public art activates our public spaces and improves the visual look of the city and built surroundings. Finally, Public art reflects a community that has pride in its surroundings which can help attract victors and retain residents.

Public art inspires, engages, educates, and makes a lasting impact in our community. In 2017/2018, the MOA Public Art Program provided a number of Public Outreach, Education, and Training events. Below is a sample of key events during this period.

Outreach:
The MOA Public Art Program partnered with the Ole (opportunities for life long learning) group to provide a Public Art Bus Tour to the Girdwood Valley. About twenty five individuals participated in viewing and learning about Public Artworks as well as attending a studio visit with master glass artist James Kaiser. The MOA Public Art Program continued its partnership with the Anchorage Museum and Bike Anchorage to provide an annual Public Art Bike Tour, touring West Anchorage works in 2017, and East Anchorage works in 2018. An artist or arts studio visit is included in each tour. In 2017, we visited the Makers Space in Spenard and in 2018, the tour visited Perry Eaton at Magpie Studios in Mountain View.

Education:
Artist Przemyslaw Kordys worked with the Art Teacher at Romig Middle School to capture students drawings about elements in Alaska that were inspiring to them. Kordys then transferred those original student drawings into mixed media relief cast squares that were integrated into his final work. He worked with two art classes and incorporated 26 student designs into his work. Artist Karl Unasch, who is working on a stained glass piece for Turnagain Elementary also incorporated the elementary students in the process of his work. Unasch provided a site visit and student workshop in collaboration with the Art Teacher. Unasch will incorporate the students’ concepts into his design that will be installed in 2019. As part of her proposal, artist Jen Jolliff provided a presentation to the entire school during a special assembly to educate the students about the incoming work. Jolliff showed images of her work, the process of making the pieces for the school, and answered any questions the students had. Additionally, Jolliff created coloring sheets that replicated the carved animal forms and provided those to the students of the class. An example of Public Art’s role in preserving culture and history is Holly Nordlum’s Caribou and Raven at the Loussac Library. As a companion to her designs on the exterior perforated metal screens, Nordlum created a book that tells the Dean’ina story of Caribou and Raven. Nordlum designed the book telling the Dean’ina story and the Public Art Program produced the books which available at no charge at the Loussac Library.

Training:
In 2017-2018, the MOA Public Art Program continued providing training opportunities to Alaska artists and the community. The Curator traveled to Fairbanks, Alaska to present at the Alaska State Council on the Arts Annual Conference. The Curator provided a presentation called “Public Art Tool Kit,” which provided artists with information and resources on developing a Public Art Practice successfully. The Curator also provided two presentations to planning associations in Anchorage. The first during the SMPS Design Week. The Curator provided a presentation as a panelist for the session “Branding and the Public Perception of Design.” The Curator focused the topic to Spenard Road and discussed how art can help to tell a neighborhood’s story. The second planning presentation was during the Annual Association of Planners conference. The Curator provided a session called “Art as a Verb: How Public Art can shape place and create a sense of community and connection.” Both sessions were well attended and received.
There were multiple ASD project exemptions requested and granted in 2017.

There were ten projects that qualified under 7.40.070 as exempt from the Program. The following locations all had roof upgrades or replacements and/or system-for-system upgrades including HVAC systems and upgrades: King Career Center, Muldoon Elementary School, Northwood ABC, Nunaka Valley Elementary School, Rogers Park Elementary School, ASD Student Nutrition Center, West High School, and Willow Crest Elementary School.

One MOA project exemption was requested and granted for the APD Training/MISD Fire Alarm Control Upgrades. Although the facility is accessible and visible to the public under the Guidelines for Exceptions from the Requirements of the 1% for Art Ordinance 7.40.070 Exemptions – b. Fire Controls Upgrade is listed as an exemption.

There were multiple ASD project exemptions requested and granted in 2018.

There were seventeen projects that qualified under 7.40.070 as exempt from the Program. The following locations all had roof upgrades or replacements and/or system for system upgrades including HVAC systems and upgrades, and fire suppression upgrades: Mears Middle School, Birchwood Elementary School, Homestead Elementary School, North Star Elementary School, Ptarmigan Elementary School, Kincaid Elementary School, Northern Lights ABC, Bowman Elementary School, Trailside Elementary School, Russian Jack Elementary School, Kassun Elementary School, Lake Hood Elementary School, Abbott Loop Elementary School, East High School, and Service High School.