



2008 VISUAL ARTS COMMISSION ACTIVITY SUMMARY

Membership

- Jim Clark completed his second and final term in December, 2007. Ceca Cooper, Professor of Art at the University of Sioux Falls, filled the position in January, 2008.
- Stacey McMahan completed her second and final term in December, 2007. Ann Marie Davis, Coordinator of Fine Arts for the Sioux Falls School District, filled the position in January, 2008.
- Jerry Hauck's first term expired in December, 2008. He agreed to serve another three-year term beginning in January 2009.
- Visual Arts Commissioners for 2008 included Ceca Cooper, Ann Marie Davis, Lary Etten, Jerry Hauck, Anita Kealey, Lyle Pudwill, and Kris Carmody Reaves.
- City staff liaison to the Commission is Russ Sorenson, Urban Planner.

Elections

Jerry Hauck was reelected 2008 Chairperson in January 2008.
Lyle Pudwill was elected as 2008 Vice Chairperson in January 2008.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Sioux Falls Visual Arts Commission is to support and encourage development of visual art for community buildings and spaces through its role as an advisory body to the Mayor, City Council, and other City government officials.

Activities and Projects

• 2008 SculptureWalk—Sioux Falls

This year's program featured 54 new sculptures located within the central downtown business district for outdoor display. On March 17, 2008, the City Council adopted Resolution #46-08, accepting the Commission recommendations.

The Commission is in the process of recommending placement locations to the City Council for the 2007 and 2008 People's Choice Award recipient pieces: *Jack's Storytime* by Gregory Johnson, and the *Circle of Friends* by Karen Crain.

Visual Art Placements on City Property

- **Veterans Memorial Park Sculpture**

On March 17, 2008, the City Council adopted Resolution #45-08, accepting the Commission's recommendations to approve an outdoor bronze sculpture known as *Eternal Sentry* by artist Dr. John Wightman. The sculpture was gifted to the City by the Disabled American Veterans Chapter No. 1. Installation is complete.

- **CommUnity Youth Mosaic—Phase III**

On April 21, 2008, the City Council adopted Resolution #59-08, approving the Commission's recommendation for placement of Phase III of the *CommUnity Youth Mosaic* along East River Road, between Ninth Street and Fawick Park. Phase III is designed by high school students of the Sioux Falls School District. A spring 2009 installation is planned.

- **Visual Art Wall**

After conducting a call for art, on April 21, 2008, the City Council adopted Resolution #60-08, approving the Commission's recommendations for placement of a visual art wall along the west side of North Phillips Avenue, north of Fifth Street, along the curved roadway, just before the railroad trestle. The visual art wall, known as *In Varietate Concordia* ("United in Diversity"), designed and constructed by South Dakota artist Matthew Kargol, is expected to be completed in early 2009.

- **Arena/Convention Center Sculptures**

On May 19, 2008, the City Council adopted Resolution #79-08, accepting the Commission's recommendations to approve two outdoor bronze sculptures at the main entrance of the Sioux Falls Arena and Convention Center. The sculptures, known as *Sonrise* by Bill Noland, and *Spirits in the Smoke* by Christopher Powell, are leased for public space placement by a private business for two years. Installation is complete.

- **McKenna Park Sculpture**

On December 1, 2008, the City Council adopted Resolution #185-08, approving the Commission's recommendation for placement of an outdoor bronze sculpture bust in the southern portion of McKenna Park. The sculpture, known as *Helen McKenna* by Martin Wanserski, was purchased by the McKenna Bust Foundation and is to be donated to the City of Sioux Falls. A summer 2009 installation is planned.

Visual Art Tours

- **Museum of Visual Materials**

The Commission held their June 2008 regular meeting at the Museum of Visual Materials, located at 500 North Main Avenue, and was afforded an informative tour by former museum director, Carmen Toft.

- **Visual Arts Center**

The Commission held their July 2008 regular meeting at the Visual Arts Center in the Washington Pavilion, located at 300 South Main Avenue. An enthusiastic behind-the-scenes tour was conducted by the director for the center, David Merhib.

Calls for Art

- **Visual Art Wall**

After conducting a 2007 call for art to South Dakota artists for a visual art wall to be located along North Phillips Avenue, the Commission received ten submittals in January 2008. The Commission established a project subcommittee and conducted a separate jury panel review process for the project. The Commission considered and accepted recommendations from the jury panel and subcommittee. On April 21, 2008, the City Council adopted Resolution #60-08, approving the Commission's recommendations for placement of a visual art wall along the west side of North Phillips Avenue, north of Fifth Street, along the curved roadway, just before the railroad trestle. The visual art wall, known as *In Varietate Concordia* ("United in Diversity"), designed and constructed by South Dakota artist Matthew Kargol, is expected to be completed in early 2009.

- **Art Bike Racks**

The Commission conducted a fall 2008 call for art to South Dakota artists to submit designs for art bike racks. The proposed nontraditional bike racks would include a free-form design used for racks placed on private and public property, and a standard design for racks that could be affixed to abandoned parking meters on public property. The Commission received a total of nine submittals from three individual artists. The Commission established a project subcommittee and conducted a separate jury panel review process for the project. As of January 2009, the Commission is in the process of reviewing the recommendations from the jury panel and subcommittee.

Exploring Visual Art Opportunities within the Community

The Visual Arts Commission met with members of the Art Falls Committee in September to learn more about their annual fine arts festival event and to show support for their efforts.

Website

The Visual Arts Commission continues to develop and improve their website. The website serves as an online resource to keep public visual art enthusiasts and interested citizens informed about the Commission membership and duties, meeting agendas and minutes, general procedure guidelines for calls for art, jury pool/panel correspondence, public art presentation forms, and specific public visual art projects.

The public is invited to view the Commission's website.

www.siouxfalls.org/Mayor/boards_commissions/visual_arts_commission

Conclusion

There are many positive changes occurring in Sioux Falls that emphasize and include public visual art and aesthetics. The Visual Arts Commission is very excited to be a part of this community's art evolution. The Commissioners are grateful for the opportunity to serve the citizens of Sioux Falls.

The Visual Arts Commission meets the third Tuesday of each month at 9 a.m. in Carnegie Town Hall. They are pleased to have visitors attend their meetings at any time.