

**Annual Report of the Norman Public Arts Board
Report to the City of Norman
March 2014**

It is my pleasure to provide the annual report of the activities of the Norman Public Arts Board. This Board, created by city ordinance in the fall of 2007, has enjoyed an active year. This Board, though a civic entity, is mandated to additionally serve as a committee of the Norman Arts Council. All activities of the PAB are therefore subject to the approval of the NAC in addition to working with the City.

The members of this Board, the entities they represent, and their terms (expiring in October each year) are:

Mayoral Appointees:

Cheryl Lockstone	2014
Carol Dillingham	2015
Jonathan Fowler (Vice-Chair)	2016
Norman Gallery Association	
Douglas Elder	2016
Ally Richardson	2014
Norman Convention Visitors Bureau	
Taylor Mauldin (Secretary)	2016
Norman Arts and Humanities Roundtable	
Larry Walker (Chair)	2015
Ex-Officio Member	
Jud Foster, Director of Parks and Recreation	

Activities:

1. *CRE8nSK8*, an ongoing project with contemporary street art in Blake Baldwin Skate Park, was refreshed with new art in the Summer of 2013. Our thanks go to Andy Jacobs who is the Project Coordinator. He has managed this project with artists, volunteers, and the Park and Recreation Department. This year's refresh is scheduled for August and will incorporate designs and paintings by high school art students and professional artists.
2. The public arts map has been developed and printed. This map, detailing art in public places in Norman, is available through the NCVB, Norman Arts Council, Firehouse Art Center, and at the City's offices
3. As of the date of this report, nine 44" tall fiberglass ducks enhanced by local artists have been installed in Eastwoods, Rotary, Lion's Memorial, Andrews, Colonial Estates, Tulls, Centennial, Castlerock, and Lion's parks. The next three sculptures are ready to be installed this month at Reeves Park. All three are based on "patriotic themes."
4. Last year, five sculptures were placed in Lion's Park on Flood for a temporary exhibit from November 2012 through April 2013. These sculptures were the works of students from the OU School of Art and Art History. They are the students of Professor Jonathan Hils. This highly successful project helped train artists interested in pursuing the placement of their pieces of public art. Their pieces were viewed and experienced by the large number of people who utilize this park and people visiting the Firehouse Art Center. This year we will be installing six new student created sculptures in Lion's Park during the last week of April. They will be on display through August 2014 and we look forward to the Summer Breeze crowds having the opportunity to view these works.

5. With the generous support of Fowler VW, the first round of five bicycle racks designed by artists and fabricated locally were placed in the Downtown area. The sponsorship included all costs, including honorariums for the selected artists. Fowler VW has pledged the support for seven newly designed racks to be placed in the expanded Downtown area. In addition, a local business has agreed to underwrite an eight rack to be placed in front of their business. These are currently being fabricated and will be installed in the next few months.
6. During the “Luncheon on the Grass” event in Lions’ Park, the PAB helped children cut and paint recycled plastic water bottles to create a colorful 7” tall tree as part of a temporary public art project.
7. Listed below is a summary of the Four Year Strategic Plan for the PAB, as approved by the PAB and the Norman Arts Council.

Four Year Strategic Plan Summary

2014 – Focus on “filling-out” Downtown Arts District with additional bicycle racks (already being fabricated), additional duck sculptures in neighborhood park nearby, install two new 7-12’ sculptures, refresh art at Blake Baldwin skate park, research banners on light poles designating Downtown/Arts District, increase donor base, and develop a public relations calendar to create awareness of public art in Norman.

2015 – Focus on Campus Corner and west Norman with additional bicycle racks, duck sculptures in west Norman parks, develop new community projects along with Blake Baldwin refresh, two 7-12” sculptures placed in Campus Corner and west Norman, and increase donor base.

2016 – Continue focus on Campus Corner and west Norman with more bicycle racks, duck sculptures, and two additional 7-12’ sculptures while working to develop new project ideas.

2017 – Focus on new areas that work to make connections between already established areas while also looking at new project ideas.

Summary

Since the creation of the Public Arts Board, we have accomplished several projects/goals and we will continue to build on the successes we have experienced. As we progress in creating more awareness of our activities, it is hoped that we will see a growth in public/private financial support for our projects.

We would like to extend the PAB’s thanks to the staff and Board of the Norman Arts Council for their support, and the City’s staff for their assistance, especially Shawn O’Leary, Jud Foster, James Briggs, and the City Attorney’s office. The continuing support of the City and City Council is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry P. Walker, Chair
Norman Public Arts Board