

# ART IN PUBLIC PLACES BOARD

## 2002 ANNUAL REPORT

### BACKGROUND

The Art in Public Places Board held their first meeting in July of 1995. The APP board meetings are being held the third Wednesday of each month at 3:30 p.m. at the Lincoln Center.

Members who served in 2002 were Ann Carr, Elizabeth Dale, Deanna Gram, Alan Howe, Jane Liska-Smith, Roger Sherman, and Cori Hixon-Cunningham. Alan Howe served as Chairperson and Cori Hixon-Cunningham served as Vice-Chair.

### ADMINISTRATION, POLICIES & GUIDELINES

The APP Board continues to devote time identifying ways in which policies will be administered in specific projects.

### SPECIAL PROJECTS

The APP Board continues to seek opportunities for art in community gateways, review the use of Utility funds for art, and develop guidelines, criteria, and evaluation forms for the donation of memorials and monuments to the City of Fort Collins.

Staff is in the process of developing a Memorial Catalogue. This catalogue will illustrate opportunities for community members seeking to place memorials with the city. Staff is gathering information from city departments on what these opportunities might be; i.e. artistic benches, trees, etc. This process is a proactive way of combining the needs of the city with well-designed and placed memorials.

### 1% PROJECTS (Completed)

Staff from the Natural Resources Program gave a presentation about the **Nix Farm Natural Areas Facility** project to the APP Board. The City is restoring the site and using it for the Natural Resources Department. An RFP was created to commission an artist to work with the Design Team to create art for the Backyard Wildlife Habitat Demonstration Garden. The artist selected was Joe McGrane. The artist created "Hidden Habitats", which combines a curved wall, interactive viewers that depict animals found in the natural area, a flagstone & cobble paving design and a carved sandstone water basin.

The Civic Center Four Corners Project involved the public right-of-way area of the Civic Center Plan. Artist Andrew Dufford designed bronze pavers which are inset in the sidewalks. He also designed light pole enhancement sculptures that have been attached to the light poles on Mason and Laporte Streets. These sculptures are intended to mirror the stylized designs found in the bronze pavers. Andrew Dufford was then selected to extend his design work onto the new **Civic Center Transit Center**. He was commissioned to create kinetic sculptures with transportation themes. He has built four kinetic pieces that have been installed on the four central bus shelters. This work compliments the streetscape of light pole enhancement sculptures and bronze pavers.

The Project Manager and architect for the **Collindale Clubhouse** project presented plans for their upcoming project to the board. The Design Team stated that they were interested in the idea of design elements being used throughout the building, rather than a single sculpture. The board

decided to commission Surface Strategy and artist Barb McKee to work with the Design Team to integrate art into the project. Ms. McKee's design includes a cottonwood leaf insert and a concrete rock mosaic that depicts the topography of the golf course. The images were inserted into the building chimney, in the interior and sandblasted into the sidewalk.

The Board created an RFP and held an open competition for the **Water Cycle Wall** Project accepting the Selection Committee's vote to recommend Janet Austin as the artist. This project is a collaborative effort between the APP Program and the Utility Department's Watershed Program. The project site is near Spring Creek, just south of the Drake Pedestrian "Foot Bridge," and includes a wall that will serve as an observational focal point. The Utility Department has worked with local elementary and junior high school students in order to acquire design ideas to add artistic embellishments to the wall. The artist installed tile mosaics to represent the water cycle and bronze & ceramic tiles inspired by student work that represents the animal cycles.

### **1% PROJECTS (Pending)**

The Advanced Planning Department had previously met with the APP Board to outline the various gateways to the city and options to work together as a team. The Board discussed being attentive to future projects that may be gateways to the city. The City's Transportation Department updated the board on the **North College Improvement** project. The APP Board discussed possible locations for a gateway art piece and plans to start working on the project in 2003.

Staff researched transportation themes for images to be adhered to the **Elevator Doors** of the Civic Center Parking Structure. The photographs used, of Fort Collins from the early 1900's, were gathered from the Local History Archive. Staff has created images color-coded for each of the four floors of the parking structure as well as the inside of the north elevator. The finished images will include text describing the image and will note the floor number.

The Park Planning Department presented the **Case Park** project to the APP Board. It was their suggestion to work with the art teachers and students at the adjoining high school on a collaborative project. The project team members, along with Fort Collins High School art teacher Judi Bassani, selected artist Jim Lynxwiler to be the artist/mentor on this project. They invited students, parents, staff and the public to create ceramic tiles for this project. The artist is working on a design for a sculptural form as the base for the tiles.

Park Planning and Development Department added Design Consultant Andrew Dufford to the **Fossil Creek Community Park** Design Team. Mr. Dufford participated in a design charrette and helped define the park theme and certain park elements. Andrew Dufford was then selected from the APP Resource List by members of the Design Team to create an art piece for the park. Mr. Dufford's designs for a "Ripple Cove", "Entryway Feature", and stone carvings for the "Time Walk" were approved by the APP Board and City Council. The artist is currently creating the artworks for the park.

The Engineering Department gave a presentation to the Board on the **Taft Hill Road** project. They gave a description of the project and outlined possible opportunities for art. The Board moved to commission artist Carolyn Braaksma to design elements for the concrete retaining walls under the bridge where Taft Hill Road and the Spring Creek bike trail meets. The artist is

currently in the process of fabricating artistic attachments to be installed on the bridge railing that will compliment the wall design.

Staff met with Park Planning and Development to discuss the design of **Harmony Park** in Southeast Fort Collins. APP staff is coordinating a collaborative project with Preston Junior High School and Traut Core Knowledge to incorporate art into Harmony Park. The project team selected artist Jim Lynxwiler from the pre-approved Design Consultant Resource List. He is currently working on tile mosaic inserts to incorporate into the concrete walkways near the teaching circles. The artist is currently working with the students on a design for an entryway art feature that he will present to the APP board at a later date.

APP staff created an open competition for a sculpture at the entry plaza for the **Gardens on Spring Creek**. Artist William Viehr was selected from the finalists. The artist worked with the Gardens Design Team on specifics for the proposed sculpture for the site. After discussion by the Board, the direction has been changed to work with the original Design Consultant who worked with the Gardens Design Team. Artist Barry Rose will work on design concepts that will be presented to the APP board and City Council.

Staff created a request for proposals for a **City Hall Water Feature** project. The water feature will be placed in the central area of the Xeriscape Garden, replacing the sculpture that is currently there. That sculpture, entitled "Solstice" will be relocated to a new site. An RFP was created and artist Richard Hansen was selected to work with a city team on the specific needs for this site. This project will be funded with Utility funds and will have a water theme/purpose. Mr. Hansen's design concept has been approved by the APP board and City Council. This project is currently on hold due to recent drought conditions.

Park Planning & Development staff reviewed the APP Design Consultant Resource List and selected artist Robert Tully to create ideas for **Soft Gold Park** in north Fort Collins. The theme of this new city park is the historic trapping industry. Soft Gold refers to the beaver pelts that were used for exchange. The project team has met and will work together to create artistic elements for the site.

A city engineer presented ideas for projects that could be incorporated into the **Pedestrian Accessibility** projects. The board recommended an open competition to solicit drawings from Fort Collins students ages 3-18. The program advertised the competition, resulting in the submission of 113 drawings. Six designs were selected and will be fabricated into pavers. The pavers will either be cast in bronze or sandblasted in stone and installed into selected sidewalks.

Park Planning & Development met with the APP Board to discuss the opportunity for artwork at **Homestead Park**. The site is a six-acre park located south of Trilby, between Loveland and Fort Collins. The APP Board recommended that the department select an artist from the pre-approved Design Consultant Resource List to work with the team on a concept for art for the site. The selected artist, Kenny Schneider, worked with the team and presented to the board drawings for a musical art piece entitled "Joyride." The piece consists of one hundred steel pipes of varying lengths that create a fence approximately sixty-four feet long. The concept of this interactive project is that it becomes a musical instrument by dragging a stick along the pipe. The board approved the piece and it is currently being fabricated.

Park Planning and Development presented a new project that would extend the bike trail from behind EPIC one mile to Drake Road. The APP Board moved for the project team to select an artist from the Design Consultant Resource List for the **Power Trail** project. The team will select an artist for this project.

Facilities staff presented plans for a new **Traffic Operations Facility** on Linden and Vine Street. The board recommended an open competition to select an artist. Artist Jim Haire was selected. Mr. Haire worked with the Design Team on a design for a life-sized bronze sculpture that would depict a historic traffic officer. The APP Board and City Council approved the final design. The artwork will be installed in 2003.

Facilities and Recreation staff presented plans for the **Second Sheet of Ice at EPIC**. The project was announced in an open competition to commission an artist to work with the team to create art for the site. The artist team of Juan and Patricia Naverrete was selected and has worked with the Design Team on concepts for art at the site. The APP Board and City Council approved the concept for sculptural representations of "Ice Crystals" that would be suspended from the ceiling. The artwork will be installed in 2003.

Recreation and Facility staff presented to the APP Board design concepts for the new **City Park Pool**. Through an open competition, artist Joe McGrane was selected to work with the project Design Team on concepts for art at the site. Mr. McGrane presented drawings for a piece titled, "100 Days of Summer." The design includes precast concrete waves with colorful tile insets to sit on, with historic images of the pool imbedded in the forms. This interactive piece would be installed at the front entry of the pool.

### **DONATIONS**

The APP Board met with Esther Duke on the donation of a mural project for the North Side Aztlan Center. EDUCO is a local nonprofit organization that works with disadvantaged or at risk youths in after school programs. The Board supported this community project.

Artist Jonathan Hubbard, who is currently an MFA student at CSU, approached APP staff about donating a sculpture to the city. The board reviewed a maquette for a piece, which was to be created out of mild & stainless steel and beach rocks. Hubbard planned on documenting the construction and installation of the piece for a CSU research project. The board motioned to accept the donation to be placed at the Lincoln Center. The piece has been installed in a location in the Terrace Sculpture Garden.

### **DESIGN CONSULTANTS**

This process adds an APP Design Consultant to the Design Team at the start of a project to work towards early integrated, site-specific works of art. The Design Consultant List of pre-approved consultants currently includes 11 artists from Fort Collins and the Front Range. The Board agreed that the Design Consultants' terms should be two years. The board will review new applicants in 2003.

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECTS**

APP staff has been contacted by the Parks Dept. to assist in acquiring artistically painted trashcans. Staff is working with local art teachers and students to work on this collaborative project. A special trashcan painting demonstration was also presented at a summer Lincoln

Center Terrace Sculpture Garden concert. Employees of B.H.A. Design volunteered to paint trashcans at this event.

Staff member Ellen Martin and Taft Hill Road artists Carolyn Braaksma and Barb McKee were featured on the Cable 27 “Showcase Fort Collins” show which featured the APP program and its collection.

APP staff members continue to give support to private businesses in the community. Staff assists with providing information on processes for acquiring art and contacts with artists.

### **MAINTENANCE**

Staff has created a maintenance plan for its collection.

As the first permanent APP project installed in Fort Collins, Drake Bridge “Foot Bridge” underwent a major repainting this year. APP staff worked with the Transportation Department so that the bridge itself could be repainted in conjunction with the removal of the artwork. The individual painted pieces have been installed and restored to their original beauty.

### **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

The APP webpage has been updated to include new projects, projects in progress page, and project description pages. The APP staff is currently working on a virtual tour of the APP art collection for the website.