

PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE (PAC) REPORT

February 20, 2025

Overall Team Summary

The Public Art Team continues its work with FY25 grantees and programs while laying the groundwork for FY26 efforts including plans for upcoming Requests for Applications, existing programs, and new initiatives. Current work and planning areas include development of a Collections Management Policy and the creation of Standard Operating Procedures as a way of clarifying and codifying existing processes. The team is also working through plans to collaborate with the European Union Delegation on a temporary loan of Art Bank works, preliminary development of a Metro Arts Writing Fellowship pilot to respond to the dearth of arts criticism, and additional research and development around an initiative to map CAH’s collection of public art.

The Public Art Team has also been working on several public programs including a recent Business of the Arts program on public art. Notably, on February 8, there was a Viet Zine Fest and talk held in the gallery attracting more than 80 attendees.

PROGRAMS and SERVICES	PROJECTS
<p>FY25 Art Exhibition (Curatorial) Grant (AEG)</p> <p>The current FY25 Art Exhibition (Curatorial) Grant (AEG) on view in the gallery is “Vagabond’s 50 Years of HOPE and HA-HAs,” an art exhibition that celebrates the expansiveness of the diaspora, rooted locally in the DMV. The exhibition is the first of its kind in DC, Maryland, and Virginia to showcase Vietnamese American artists. The exhibition curators are Philippa Hughes and Anthony Le.</p> <p>The curators have organized a number of public programs with collaboration of CAH staff, including: a Poetry Talk on January 25, and a Viet Zine Fest and Talk on Saturday, February 8. The gallery experienced a large attendance on Saturday afternoon.</p> <p>CAH 200 I (Eye) Street SE Gallery Weekdays 9 AM – 6 PM, Exhibition closes March 1. Closing reception with musical performance: Saturday, March 1 at 4 PM - 6 PM</p>	 <p>Photo by Albert Ting</p>

Noteworthy is a musical performance, which the gallery has not hosted for some time.

RSVP: <https://vietart.eventbrite.com>

FY25 Art Bank Program Grant (ABP)

Grant administration for the FY25 Art Bank Program is moving forward and more than half of the grantees have been paid. The Public Art Team is still well ahead of schedule compared to FY24. Looking forward to the FY26 Art Bank Program, the Public Art Team is currently building out a grants administration calendar, internally reviewing and updating the request for applications (RFA), and will publicly launch a new RFA in mid-April.

The Art Bank Program supports local visual artists, District art galleries, and art nonprofit organizations, in which CAH acquires fine art. The ongoing and annual acquisition of art from metropolitan artists becomes a part of the Art Bank Collection. It is then loaned to District Government agencies for display in public areas and offices of government buildings. The Art Bank Collection, which started in 1986, has nearly 3,000 artworks.



Chris Malone, Creative Lockdown, 2021 mixed media mosaic, 23 x 14 x 8 in.
LOCATION Office of Gun Violence Prevention
1350 Penn Avenue NW, Suite 533

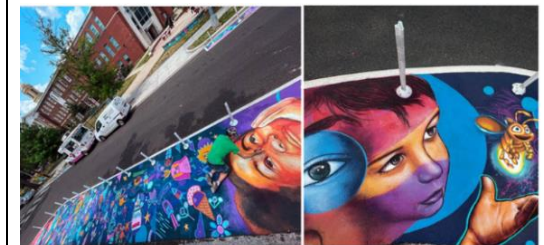
FY25 Color the Curb: School Safety Program

Applications for the FY25 Color the Curb: School Safety Program closed on February 3, at 9 PM. Eighteen completed applications were submitted.

On February 14, the PAT Staff will facilitate a selection panel orientation for the program. Panelists will learn the evaluation criteria, anti-bias considerations, conflict of interest, and confidentiality.

A Panel Review will take place during the week of March 3. Members of the Public Arts Committee are invited to participate as conveners.

The projects are murals that are placed in curb extensions outside or nearby schools to improve pedestrian safety and slow traffic. This is in partnership with the DC Department of



The Fantastical Creatures of Brightwood by Joel Bergner, and Assistant Artists: Eliecer Jorge Bermudez and Guilherme da Silva | Brightwood Elementary School 1300 Nicholson Street NW

Transportation (DDOT) and DC Public Schools (DCPS). Projects will feature artists designing and installing ground murals in intersections of three schools (Ward 1 and Ward 6).

Collections Management

The Public Art Team is currently organizing 25 open requests through the Art Bank Loan Program. The program is in high demand with requests ranging from new agency loans, expanding additional artwork in new office spaces, to deinstallations and relocation of current loans. The team is cataloging the new FY25 Art Bank acquisitions into the TMS content management systems. The artworks will be viewable online on the Collections eMuseum website in February.

Recent art selections include: Councilmember Anita Bonds, Councilmember Wendell Felder, Department of Health, Department of Licensing and Consumer Protection, and Office of Planning. During the week of February 17, installations include: Workforce Investment Council and Mayor’s Office of Communications.



The Painter and the Singer by Rashin Kheiriyeh | Board of Ethics Govt Accountability 1030 15th St, NW, Suite 700

FY25 Public Art Building Communities (PABC)

As a capacity building component to the Public Art Building Communities grant program, a session of The Business of the Arts Professional Development Series was held on January 31, with more than 80 attendees participating. Public Arts Coordinator Kerry Kennedy served as moderator on a panel of three arts professionals—Monica Jahan Bose, Jessie Himmelrich, and Antoine Williams. They shared their experiences navigating the unique challenges and opportunities of creating public art in the District. The panelists discussed the complexities of communicating an artist’s vision, writing grant applications, engaging the community, and installing public art—all of which require a diverse and intricate skill set.

Watch the recording to learn what it takes to successfully navigate the Public Art Building Communities (PABC) grant application and bring stunning artworks to life in the Capital.

<https://dcarts.dc.gov/node/1762766>

