



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMISSION ON THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES

PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE REPORT
FULL COMMISSION MEETING
April 25, 2022

1. Color the Curb: School Safety Program

The four artists are engaging with their assigned schools on the development of the ground murals. In coordination with National Bike to School month on May 5, 2022, the artists and DDOT will be at the schools to kick off the project through after school activities and information regarding safe passages to school. The murals are anticipated to be completed by the end of the school year, late June.

Beginning in FY23, the Color the Curb: School Safety Program will be a standing grant program for the Public Art Department.

A new Asphalt Art Safety Study, produced by Sam Schwartz Consulting in partnership with Bloomberg Philanthropies, examined the impact of art in the streetscape by comparing historical crash rates and real-time behavior of motorists and pedestrians at an array of asphalt art sites before and after the projects were installed. This study found that city streets became considerably safer for pedestrians after incorporating art into roadway redesigns.

2. Marion Barry Jr, Legacy Mural Project

Application deadline extended to May 27. Finalists to be identified in June with written design proposals presented in August. Recommended grantee to be presented to the Full Commission in September. Winning design to be implemented and completed by the end of February 2023.

3. Upcoming Exhibition – *Fragile Beauty*, May 9 – July 1, 2022

FY22 Juried Exhibition Grant exhibition on the theme of Environmental Justice featuring the following robust programming:

Opening Event, Thursday, May 12, 2022, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Exhibition opening and panel discussion in the CAH 200 I (Eye) Street Gallery (panel discussion 5:30-6:30).

Fragile Beauty: From Art to Action – A celebration of the opening of the exhibition *Fragile Beauty*, will feature a panel discussion on Environmental Justice in art and action featuring the exhibition artists in conversation about their work in the exhibition. Michael Feldman, of the Theater and Policy Salon, will moderate a discussion on moving from art to social action. Visitors will have the opportunity to experience the exhibition and take part in the program.

Thursday, June 2, 4:00 – 5:30 pm VIRTUAL via WebEx: *Film and Flood Resilience*

Panel discussion on artists and planners who address flood resilience in Washington, DC, New Orleans, and the Caribbean. Alexandra Silverthorne produces photograph of historic New Orleans using collected water from the Mississippi River to process her film. Jaime Ramiro (Rami) Diaz is an architectural designer and planner expert on New Orleans' architecture, landscape, and water systems.

Closing Event, Monday, June 27. Noon-1:30 pm, 200 I Street SE (and possibly Canal Park)

To celebrate the closing of *Fragile Beauty* and the wrap-up of the CAH Environmental Justice initiative, we will hold an event in the galleries and possibly across the street in Canal Park. Featuring a climate pledge workshop led by artist Monica Bose.

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