
PUBLIC ART TEAM STAFF REPORT JULY 15, 2024

A Toast To The Boogie: Art In The Name of Funk(adelic) Exhibition opened on June 25, 2024, and welcomed over 600 attendees during the VIP and public opening receptions. The exhibition received strong press coverage from *The Washington Informer*, *The Washington Post*, and WUSA9 (links below). The exhibition will be on view in the I Street Gallery until August 16, 2024. A closing reception and artist talk will be held on August 15, 2024. Curator Michelle May-Curry can be reached if Commissioners would like to help support any community engagement or guided tours with groups during the run of the show.

The Washington Informer: [DC Commission celebrates George Clinton's funk legacy - The Washington Informer](#)

The Washington Post: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/style/2024/06/27/p-funk-art-exhibit-dc/>

WUSA9: <https://www.wusa9.com/article/features/dc-thing/george-clinton-launches-new-funk-art-exhibit-in-dc/65-ab16c2b5-a332-4d12-b219-69d637b8ee26>

FY25 Art Bank Grant Program (ABP)

- Applications for the Art Bank Grant Program closed on May 28, 2024. CAH received a record number of applications, with a total of 289 eligible applications. To support this growth, staff added an additional jury review panel (from previous three to now four panels), with a total of 20 jurors representing the arts community. The panel jury will convene virtually in July and in person for final review in September, with the grant going in front of the Commission in October.

FY25 Art Exhibition (Curatorial) Grant Program (AEG)

- Applications for the Art Exhibition (Curatorial) Grant Program closed on July 1, 2024. CAH received a record number of applications, with a total of 16 eligible applications. Jury paneling will be held for this grant in August, with the grant going in front of the Commission in September. Exhibitions will be organized around three themes including: Social Justice, Art of Veterans, and World Pride.

FY25 Public Art Building Communities Grant Program (PABC)

- CAH is currently soliciting applications from qualified individual artists or organizations for the FY25 Public Art Building Communities Grant Program (PABC). The PABC grant program supports individual artists and organizations in their effort to design, fabricate and install new permanent or temporary works of public art that connect artists (and their artwork) with communities. PABC closes on July 22, 2024.

FY24 Grant Program Updates

Color the Curb: School Safety Program

- Color the Curb: School Safety Program is a collaborative design and placemaking project created through a partnership of CAH, District Department of Transportation, and DC Public Schools. This program aims to increase pedestrian safety by painting ground murals in curb extensions outside or near schools in Washington, DC.
- Artist Adrienne Gaither completed their mural in June 2024 at Leckie Elementary School (Ward 8). A classroom celebration was held with the students and the artist. The students ranging from kindergarten to 4th grade helped contribute ideas for the mural.
- Artists Shani Shih and Ann Gill are currently working on their mural at Whittier Elementary School (Ward 4). CAH summer interns and staff completed a site visit with the artists on July 9, 2024. While on site, discussions included project theme, student engagement methods, and design processes along with observing the beginnings of the installation.

PABC

- Southwest BID, a FY24 PABC grantee, will hold a dedication for their Gallery of Southwest mural in the 4th Street Underpass on Thursday, July 18, 2024, at 10 AM. The CAH team will be present for remarks during the dedication event and ribbon cutting (held at 501 4th Street SW at the fire station). The project features a series of murals from the BID's direct collaboration with 11 different artists and artist collectives: Chelsea Ritter-Soronen; Ham and Cheese; David Carmack Lewis; Jarrett Ferrier; Jesse Kirsch; Juan Pineda aka CRI; Kaliq N Crosby aka KaliQ; Luther Wright; Rodrigo Pradel, Michael Pacheco, Monica Tucker-Harley, Sarah Berry aka RoMiMoSa; Rose Jaffe; and Sasha Reisin aka Primo.

FY23-FY24 Commemorative Works Technical Assistance Program (CW-TAP)

- The Commemorative Works Technical Assistance Program (CW-TAP) is in collaboration with the District's Office of Planning and supports local artists to increase commemoration of Black Washingtonians and other leaders of color in all Wards of the District. A design team and the selected public artists have worked to prepare concept designs.
- CAH staff has been collaborating with the artists and the Office of Planning to hold public information and feedback sessions for each of the four projects.
 - Ward 4, Miriam Gusevich, Caribbean Carnival
 - Ward 5, Michael Janis, Enslaved People Who Built the U.S. Capitol
 - Ward 7, Adrienne Gaither & Omar Hakeem, Black Entrepreneurs of Deanwood
 - Ward 8, Kaliq Crosby, Marion Berry Summer Youth Employment Program
- This project brings together artists and community partners from four wards, and interagency partners for concept review. Collaborators include artists, architects, the District Department of Transportation, the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Mayor's Office on Caribbean Community Affairs, the National Capital Planning Commission, the Commission on Fine Arts, and others.

Marion Barry Legacy Public Art Project

Staff continues work with lead artist team Creative Junkfood on the Marion Barry Jr Legacy Public Art Project to be installed in the lobby of the Mayor Marion S. Barry Jr. Building located at 441 4th Street, NW, Washington, DC.

FY22 Cooper Gordon Park Sculpture

- The Cooper Garden Park Sculpture is a Civic Commission Project from FY22 that was installed on June 20, 2024. Artist Chris Tousimis was selected to create a sculpture honoring Shaw neighborhood matriarchs Margaret Cooper and Lillian Gordon. The sculpture would be a centerpiece of the renovated triangle park. The park was renovated as part of DC Water's Northeast Boundary Tunnel repair project.
- The installation represents a partnership with DC Water and the Department of Parks and Recreation. CAH plans to participate in an unveiling and park dedication in the Fall 2024 once planting at the park is complete. The sculpture is not on view, and it is currently crated and protected while work on the park is completed.