

MILWAUKEE ARTS BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

Presented to the Community and
Economic Development
Committee, May 8, 2024

MILWAUKEE ARTS BOARD PURPOSE AND CREATION

320-12. Arts Board. 1. CREATION. There is created an arts board consisting of 17 members appointed by the mayor for 3-year terms and confirmed by the common council. At least one member shall be selected from among the members of the common council, one member shall be selected from the membership of the Cultural, Artistic and Musical Programming Advisory Council and 2 shall represent the Milwaukee board of school directors. All members shall be city residents. No member may participate in any decision that would directly assist any organization to which the member belongs, except as a dues-paying member, or from which the member receives any benefit, except as a dues-paying member.

2. DUTIES AND POWERS. The board shall:

- a. Promote the development, support and enjoyment of the arts in this city.
- b. Promote cultural diversity in the artistic life of this city.
- c. Promote the formation and growth of artistic projects or programs that are administered by and responsive to the needs of the city's communities that have been historically underrepresented or underserved based on race, ethnicity, age, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, socioeconomic status, geography, or citizenship status.
- d. Promote the design, construction and landscaping of public projects and private buildings, including public and private improvements, that enhance the beauty of this city.
- e. Determine the amounts to be expended from the Milwaukee arts fund in accordance with the guidelines established under sub. 3 and any additional written guidelines adopted by the board.
- f. Review the designs of projects in accordance with the guidelines established under sub. 4.
- g. Administer the municipal art fund established by s. 304-27 and seek grant opportunities to supplement the municipal art fund when appropriate.
- h. Submit annual reports to the common council and the mayor with respect to the board's activities under s. 304-27 and this section.

SUSTAINING GRANT PROGRAM

The 2023 final reports are due June 30, 2024. In the 2022 final report, grantees reported on a program that met the purposes of the Arts Board code of ordinance. In total there were:

-3,884 artists were engaged (students, musicians, actors, artists, educators etc.)

-373,081 people were served (audience members, gallery attendees, zoom views, listeners, etc.) over at least 67,932 sessions



Radio Milwaukee's Music Lab – May 24, 2023 - open house with students, parents and community members with a great conversation about believing in yourself plus student open mic performances.



Latino Arts – March 3, 2023 - An exhibit featuring female artists reflecting on relationships with individuals that have played a maternal figure role in each of the artists' lives, focused on the stories of these relationships and the lessons learned.

MILDRED L. HARPOLE ARTISTS OF THE YEAR AND FRIENDS OF THE ARTS AWARDS

- The MAB continued accepting nominations for these awards from the public, and received over 60 individual nominations this year!
- The 2024 awardees will be announced via a press release in May and honored at the annual June Arts Celebration, June 11th in the City Hall Rotunda.



2023 Mildred L. Harpole Artists of the Year Paul Druecke (left), and Ben Tyjeski (right center) and 2023 Friend of the Arts Jenelle Elder-Green (left center) and Mayor Johnson (right). Not pictured is Carl Bogner, 2023 Friend of the Arts.

PUBLIC ART CONSERVATION FUND



\$5,000 for the Enderis Park Neighborhood Association conservation of the Magic Grove Sculpture by Nancy Metz-White



\$2,000 for the Lake Park Friends conservation of the Erastus Wolcott Memorial



\$3,000 for the Riverworks Development Corporation Beerline Trail Train Mural conservation

All awarded in 2022

PUBLIC ARTIST IN RESIDENCY (PAIR) PROGRAM

PAIR is a municipal residency program that embeds artists in City of Milwaukee departments to strategize, propose and implement creative solutions to complex civic challenges. PAIR aims to invest in the city's cultural producers by leveraging the knowledge, practices and creative tool kits of local artists to build a better community for Milwaukee residents.

In this first year, Sarah Davitt has been working in collaboration with the Department of Public Works (DPW) and the Vision Zero team to raise awareness around the dangers of reckless driving. Sarah has created a visibility patch printing activity that has engaged hundreds of community members and given them a patch to take home to make walking and biking at night safer (using retro reflective tape) and to remind them about our collective commitments to being safe road users.

The "Art Car" is near completion, and will be used as a community outreach and engagement tool beginning this summer to spark interest and start conversations about safe driving and Vision Zero.



(left) a community member prints a visibility patch at the Vision Zero Open House – (right three) cones carved to be attached to the "art car" which is sketched center.