



Cover: Around About, Larry Kirkland, 2010

City of Pasadena Cultural Affairs E-newsletter - Spring 2016

April Showers may bring May flowers, but spring showers came early this year in March-just in time for Spring ArtNight Pasadena. Fortunately, the skies cleared by 6 pm so umbrellas weren't necessary. Many thanks to all of our ArtNight Partners, Docents, staff and volunteers who were ready for rain or shine. It was another successful ArtNight Pasadena!

Spring brings us many cultural events. Upcoming dramatic highlights include: The Theatre at Boston Court's So Cal premiere of The Golden Dragon (www.bostoncourt.com); A trio of Romeo and Juliet, You Never Can Tell, and Six Characters in Search of an Author at A Noise Within (www.anoisewithin.org); and the Pasadena Playhouse presentation of The Madwoman in the Volvo in June (www.pasadenaplayhouse.org).

The City of Pasadena Cultural Affairs Division and the Arts & Culture Commission announce this Spring's events:

City Receives Two Artwork Donations



City Hall by Bruce Tunis, 1982

A triptych by artist Bruce Tunis had hung in a local bank until the mid-1990s before being removed and saved by Pasadena Heritage. The mural, which depicts City Hall, required conservation that was funded by the City's Arts & Culture Commission.

Cultural Affairs oversaw the conservation, framing and installation of the painting. A dedication ceremony to acknowledge the donation by Pasadena Heritage to the City's Collection was held in January of 2016. Also in attendance were Mayor Tornek, representatives from Pasadena Heritage and the artist. The painting now hangs in the lower level of the Pasadena City Hall to ensure public accessibility.

A second painting with City Hall as its subject, painted by Shamavon Shmavonian, was graciously donated to the City by a gallery owner. The artwork was created by an Armenian visiting artist who was inspired by the beauty of City Hall. In February, 2016, a public dedication ceremony and reception were held at the Pasadena Central Library. The artist and donor, along with numerous community members, City officials, Arts & Culture Commissioners and staff, were present at the dedication event. Remarks of gratitude were made by Councilmember John J. Kennedy and Jan Sanders, Director of Library and Information Services. The painting has been installed in the Library's Donald R. Wright Auditorium for public view.



Pasadena City Hall by Shamavon Shmavonian, 2015

NEA Upcoming My Pasadena Public Art Performances and Installations

Eight new temporary public artworks will be installed through September, 2016 to enliven the Civic Center as part of the federally funded "My Pasadena" project. A total of 12 public art projects throughout the Civic Center seeks to create a vibrant public arts forum that expands community awareness and involvement in the contemporary role of government in civic life.

The projects are innovative and varied in inspiration to reflect the diversity of civic engagement themes. Produced in a wide range of media, the projects include live performances, walking tours and visual art installations as well as dance, theater, animated projection, oral history and audio sounds.



The City's Cultural Affairs Division in partnership with Side Street Projects received this \$100,000 National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) grant in 2015.

NEA Our Town My Pasadena Public Art Projects Include:

1. Martin, Arnold & Crystle, *Now and Then*: Connecting the Visual Past with the Present, Binocular-like viewers showing historic images of Pasadena located in the Civic Center
2. Medvedovsky, Betsy & Steve Campos, *Pop-Up Museum*, Installation explores themes of origins, time, conflict & family
3. Willcocks, Angela, *Blotnbyte*, Audio tours and vinyl portrait drawings tell stories of Northwest Pasadena residents
4. Parson's Nose, Staged reading of Thornton Wilder's *Our Town* with professional actors and high school students
5. Lineage Dance, *Our Pasadena*, Narrative dance performance telling stories of the people of Pasadena followed by discussion
6. Forsyte, Joey, Video mapping on the Pasadena Civic Auditorium focusing on young Northwest Pasadena artists as they explore the concept of civic engagement
7. Mann Lisa & Yo-Yo Lin, *Roto Pasadena*, Animated projections and audio of Northwest community members
8. Marin, Betty, *TellMeNovela*, Projection of telenovelas at Villa Parke and City Hall followed by audience engagement activities

Archived (Past) Projects Include:

1. Armory Center for the Arts, *Parlor at the Armory*: The World that Begins Where Our Skin Ends, Artist residencies and programs with Women's Center for Creative Work
2. Freewaves, *Lions, Tigers and...*, Multi-media performance exploring the architecture of local government, imagery and history through the lion symbols at City Hall
3. Phillips, Cat Chiu, *Plarn Float*, Temporary parade float created by Pasadena youth with recycled plastic yarn
4. Glass, Michelle & Hataya Tubtim, *Everyday Monuments*, Collaborative installation and tour at City Hall using embroidery and fiber arts

For more information about My Pasadena, please visit www.cityofpasadena.net/arts and <http://sidestreet.org/my-pasadena>.

Bob Hope Airport Banner Art Contest Winner 2016

The Pasadena Arts and Culture Commission selected the winning entry of PUSD student artwork for the 9th annual Bob Hope Airport "Tower Banner" Student Art Contest. Each year, high school students from Pasadena, Burbank and Glendale are invited by the Airport Authority to submit their artwork designs in competition for exhibition on the Airport's historic airport tower. The three winning banner designs, one from each school district, are enlarged into 16 x 26-foot banners and exhibited at the airport for three months to an audience of over a million travelers and airport visitors.



This year's contest theme was "History in Aviation." A \$3,000 award is given to each participating school district.

The Selection Panel included three Arts & Culture Commissioners and a community representative. The first place design, depicted above, will be displayed at the airport from April for about three months. This year's PUSD student design winners are:

- 1st Place** Jordan Garcia, Pasadena High School, 10th grade
- 2nd Place** Erandy Wells, Pasadena High School, 10th grade
- 3rd Place** Brian Nguyen, Pasadena High School, 11th grade

For more information about these programs, please contact Rochelle Branch, Cultural Affairs Manager, Planning & Community Development Department: (626) 744-7062.