



City of Ketchum

KETCHUM ARTS COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA MEMO

Meeting Date: Staff Member/Dept:

Agenda Item:

Recommended Motion:

Reasons for Recommendation:

Policy Analysis and Background (non-consent items only):

Chair Carter Hedberg will lead a presentation during the City Council’s Monday, April 21, 2025, meeting discussing the Arts Commission’s operations. Topics to be covered include:

- statistics on the economic impact of the arts;
- who the Ketchum Arts commission is and what you do;
- last year’s projects and programming;
- this year’s projects and programming; and
- financial status.

Staff would like the commissioner’s feedback on the proposed presentation that is provided.

Sustainability Impact:

Financial Impact:

Attachments:



Arts Commission City Council Report

April 21, 2025



Purpose

Provide annual Arts Commission updates to keep the City Council in the loop on the Commission's:

- programs and activities;
- priorities;
- funding; and
- community impact.



Importance of the arts

The US arts industry generates over \$1 trillion annually (2021)

- **This is 4.4 percent of the nation's GDP** (only health care/social assistance and retail generate more).

Value added to U.S. GDP by selected sectors: 2021
(in billions)



Source: Arts and Cultural Production Satellite Account (ACPSA), U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and National Endowment for the Arts



68% of US tourism is driven by the arts, cultural heritage, and history industries.

- **Cultural tourists spend an average of about \$1,000 per trip** (nearly twice as much as other tourists, who spend about \$600).

Statistics: Americans for the Arts



What the Arts Commission does

- **Responsible for the location and selection of all public city art**
- **Advises departments regarding the maintenance and repair of the city's public art collection**
- **Raises public awareness/appreciation of the arts**
- **Encourages the preservation/growth of the city's art resources**
- **Supports Ketchum's cultural organizations**
- **Seeks and encourages financial support for the city's art projects**

Programming examples



Street art: decorative manhole covers and crosswalk art throughout Ketchum



Public sculpture: three-dimensional art utilizing various media types throughout Ketchum



Murals and print displays: photography, painting, illustration, and other media displayed throughout Ketchum



Commissioners and qualifications

- **Carter Hedberg** (*Chair*): Director of Philanthropy at The Community Library and former residential and commercial interiors professional
- **Sophie Sawyers** (*Vice Chair*): third-grade teacher and former Director of Learning and Engagement with the Sun Valley Museum of Art
- **Meredith Skillman**: Longtime gallery professional, fine arts appraiser, and vocal artist who is the current Registrar at Gail Severn Gallery
- **Mylan Chacon**: U.S. General Services Administration sculpture conservationist and professional artist, fabricator, and public art installer
- **Elizabeth Youmans**: Freelance arts writer and former Idaho Mountain Express Arts Editor
- **Jean Pierre Veillet**: Artist, designer, sculptor, and entrepreneur specializing in large-scale installations in built environments
- **Kristin Poole**: Artistic Director of The Foster Museum and former Sun Valley Museum of Art Artistic Director
- **Wendel Wirth**: Fine art photographer and Idaho Commission on the Arts and National Endowment for the Arts Fellow
- **Rebecca Larson**: Actor, performing artist, and Art Consultant at Sun Valley Contemporary Gallery



2024 Projects and programming

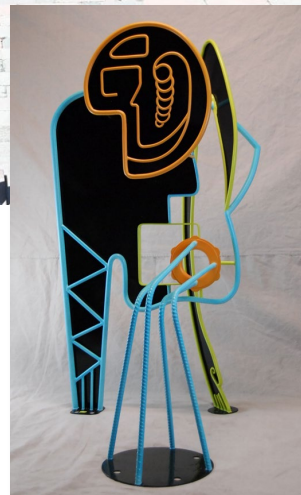
- **Evaluation of governing documents and priorities** for recommendation of future updates (Chapter 4.16 [Arts Commission] and Chapter 12.40 [Percent for Public Art] of Ketchum City Code)
- **Selected two new Creative Crosswalk designs** for the Sun Valley Road/East Avenue and Sun Valley Road/Spruce Avenue intersections
- **Reinstalled Creative Crosswalk designs** for the Sun Valley Road/Walnut Avenue and Sun Valley Road/Leadville Avenue intersections
- **Repaired and reinstalled mural on the Recreation building garage door**





2024 Projects and programming *(cont.)*

- **Selected a temporary art installation for the Sun Valley Road and Spruce Avenue intersection**
- **Selected two new sculptures for the Art on 4th exhibit**
- **Evaluated damage to, and stored, Homage to the Limber Pine Sculpture by Jason Middlebrook**
- **Establish city art collection maintenance/restoration responsibilities and budget**
- **Co-produced a public dance instruction class at Ketchum Town Square with the contemporary dance group, BODYTRAFFIC**





2024 Projects and programming *(cont.)*

- **Partnered with the Historic Preservation Commission to help develop the Main Street project's art and history priorities and plans**



ELEVATE THE PRESENCE OF ART & HISTORY DOWNTOWN
Create an artful and distinctive Downtown environment that brings Ketchum's history to life

STRENGTHEN KETCHUM'S REPUTATION AS A CULTURAL HUB
Enhance local, national, and international standing as a vibrant arts community and place for heritage tourism

STIMULATE LEARNING AND UNDERSTANDING OF KETCHUM'S HISTORY
Communicate Ketchum's culture and history through public art, architecture, wayfinding, and signage

MAINTAIN HISTORICAL RELEVANCE AND SENSITIVITY
Ensure that new installations demonstrate an appropriate scale and message befitting of Ketchum's history

DEMONSTRATE LOCAL AND CIVIC PRIDE
Connect locals and visitors to Ketchum's history and its commitment to arts and culture

INSPIRE IMAGINATION
Embrace public art as a means to encourage the community to view their surroundings from a fresh perspective

BECOME AN AGENT FOR CHANGE
Educate the community and visitors about the vital importance of historic preservation in a growing and developing western town



2025 Projects and priorities

- **Two new Art on 4th sculptures** (to be installed in May)
- **Artwork installations for the Main Street reconstruction project** (to be installed in late spring/early summer)
- **Artwork inventory and condition report**
- **Replace crosswalk art at Walnut Avenue and Sun Valley Road** (call for artists; to be installed in late spring/early summer)
- **Reinstall the current crosswalk artwork at other locations**, with improvements (to be installed in late spring/early summer)
- **Refurbish and reinstall Homage to the Limber Pine** by Jason Middlebrook
- **Repair the printed panel on the Hemingway Mosaic** by Sue Dumke (to be installed this summer)
- **Develop artwork installation maintenance plans and schedules**, and define required installation materials, processes, and maintenance policies for new art acquisitions
- **Determine what installation should be placed permanently at Sun Valley Road and Spruce Avenue**
- **Create building mural guidelines** for Ketchum Downtown Core and work on public/private mural partnerships
- **Partnerships with other arts organizations**



Financial overview

Annual income

\$10,000 for programming/installations

\$5,000 for art collection maintenance

Reserves

\$12,471 account balance

Percent for Art fund

\$11,678.07 account balance

Notes on Percent for Art collected on recent projects

- Funds were collected for the new City Hall remodel
- Funds were not collected for the Ketchum fire station because it was not eligible (paid for with bonds)
- Funds were not collected for the Sun Valley Road rebuild
- Funds were collected for the Main Street rebuild



Long-term projects/goals

- **Create policies, procedures, and operational** guidelines that future commissions can use to function at the highest level for years to come
- **Establish programs to assess, value, and maintain current and future art** inventory and protect the city's investment
- **Identify and secure long-term funding** opportunities to expand programming



Questions?