



City of Mercer Island Art Council Meeting

Department Report
July 15, 2026



Project Updates



Luther Burbank Park Waterfront Improvements

- **Major project milestone reached!** In June, the City advertised the Luther Burbank Park Waterfront Improvements project for construction.
- Project design began in 2020 and will provide universal access to the waterfront through dock repairs and reconfigurations; pathway, beach, and plaza upgrades; and utilizes and other infrastructure improvements.
- The project has received more than **\$5M** in state and county grant funding and requires more than **20 permits** from **8 federal, state, and local agencies!**
- Bidding closed on June 30, 2026, and staff anticipate bringing the bid award to City Council in July.
- Once a contract is awarded, construction will take 15 to 18 months to complete.

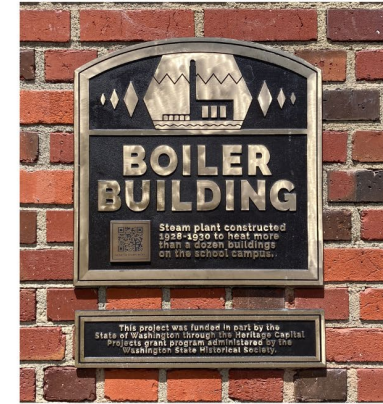


More project info at letstalk.mercergov.org/lbdock



New History Tour in Luther Burbank Park

- Community members can now take a self-guided tour through some of LBP's incredible history via the STQRY app!
- Pronounced "story," this is the City's digital platform for engaging Islanders with arts, culture, and history/heritage.
- As part of the Washington State Historical Society grant received for Boiler Building Phase 1 (completed 2024), the City developed a history tour that includes stops at the Boiler Building, Former School Parade Grounds, Calkins Point, and more!
- Access the tour in a few ways:
 1. Scan the QR code on the bronze plaques/interpretive sign installed at each stop.
 2. Search "Explore Mercer Island" to download our free STQRY app in the App Store or Google Play. The tour can be accessed by clicking on the "Luther Burbank Park History Tour" button in the navigation bar on the bottom of the app.
 3. Visit mercerisland.stqry.app via your desktop or mobile device and click on the "Luther Burbank Park History Tour" button.



Many thanks to the Mercer Island Historical Society, Friends of Luther Burbank Park, artist Marsha Rollinger, bronze foundry Two Ravens Studio, and Art Work Fine Art Services for their collaboration on this project!



New Dog Stick Library at LBP

- A new amenity has been added to the Luther Burbank Park Off Leash Area!
- Thanks to the generosity of Henry Keena, who donated, built, and installed a “Doggie Stick Library” for visiting dogs to enjoy.
- The unique addition was created in remembrance of the Keena family dog, Ellie, who loved fetching sticks in the parks off leash area.
- The installation adds a playful and personal touch to the space while celebrating the special connection many community members share with the park and their pets.



Programs/Events



Art Gallery



MIVAL
MERCER ISLAND VISUAL ARTS LEAGUE

Junior Art Show!

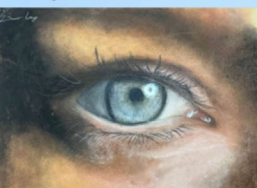
Sign Up Now!
Students from Kindergarten through 12th grade
June 22 - August 21, 2026

Mercer Island Community and Event
Center, 8236 SE 24th Street, Mercer
Island, WA 98040

Final Entry Deadline: June 15, 2026

Cash prizes will be awarded.

Contact Information
For questions or more details,
<https://mival.org/junior-art-show/>
contact Theresa Zwingman, at
tzwingman@gmail.com.

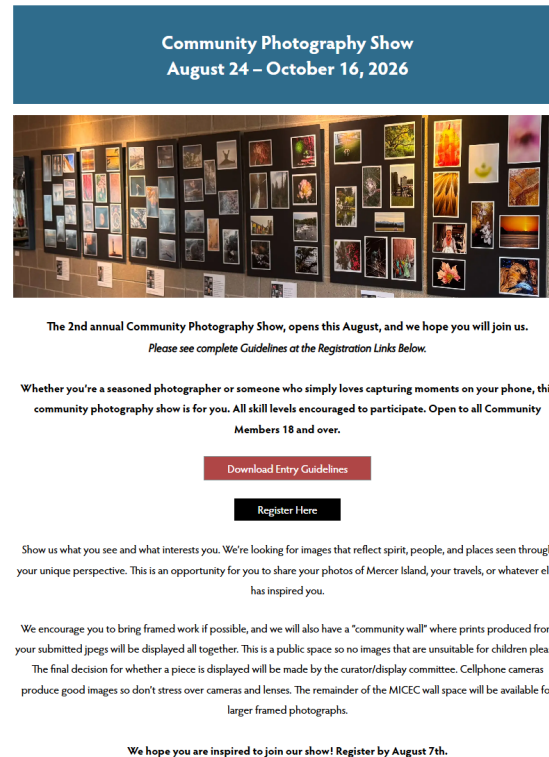




- **Community Photography Show: August 24 – October 16**

- Show us what you see and what interests you. We're looking for images that reflect spirit, people, and places seen through your unique perspective. This is an opportunity for you to share your photos of Mercer Island, your travels, or whatever else has inspired you.

- August 7: Deadline to Enter
- Website: MIVAL.org/calls-for-entry for more information



Community Photography Show
August 24 – October 16, 2026

The 2nd annual Community Photography Show, opens this August, and we hope you will join us.
Please see complete Guidelines at the Registration Links Below.

Whether you're a seasoned photographer or someone who simply loves capturing moments on your phone, this community photography show is for you. All skill levels encouraged to participate. Open to all Community Members 18 and over.

[Download Entry Guidelines](#)

[Register Here](#)

Show us what you see and what interests you. We're looking for images that reflect spirit, people, and places seen through your unique perspective. This is an opportunity for you to share your photos of Mercer Island, your travels, or whatever else has inspired you.

We encourage you to bring framed work if possible, and we will also have a "community wall" where prints produced from your submitted jpegs will be displayed all together. This is a public space so no images that are unsuitable for children please. The final decision for whether a piece is displayed will be made by the curator/display committee. Cellphone cameras produce good images so don't stress over cameras and lenses. The remainder of the MICEC wall space will be available for larger framed photographs.

We hope you are inspired to join our show! Register by August 7th.

LETTERBOXING PROGRAM RETURNS!



- Recreation and the Natural Resources Staff have teamed up again to bring the community this fun learning adventure program.
- Now through the end of September, Letterboxing booklets are available for pickup at the MICEC.

[Letterboxing at Pioneer Park | Mercer Island, Washington](#)



SUMMER CELEBRATION RECAP

- 2026 Summer Celebration was a blast! Very well attended with tons of smiles and fun!
- Over thirty groups plus City of Mercer Island vehicles joined the parade to kick off Saturday's festivities with crowds lining 78th Ave SE from Sunset Hwy to Mercerdale Park.
- A huge thank you to everyone who came out, contributed, and helped make this day so special. From start to finish, it was a beautiful reminder of the power of community, connection, and celebration.



Daytime Festivities

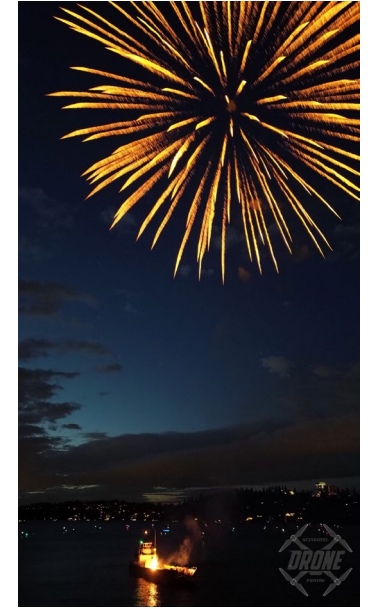
- After the parade, crowds moved into Mercerdale Park and along 77th Ave SE and SE 32nd Street where they enjoyed:
 - Over 70 booths for vendors, sponsors, and community groups
 - Multiple food vendors
 - City booths and Touch-a-Truck
 - Foam party, Mini Golf, Circus Acts, Live Band and Magician!
- City staff in multiple booths spent time engaging with the community and sharing information.



Evening Festivities

- Crowds moved to Luther Burbank Park for more food, fun, entertainment, and fireworks.
- A huge thank you to all the staff who worked hard to make this an enjoyable, memorable day and to our event sponsors:

Mercer Island Community Fund, MI Martial Arts, John L. Scott, BECU, The Mercer Apartments, Mercer Island School District, & Friends of Mercer Island Library



2026

MOSTLY MUSIC



in the park

PRESENTING SPONSORS



AIRSTREAM
ADVENTURES
SEATTLE

**THURSDAYS
6:30-8:30PM
MERCERDALE PARK**

JULY 16 | **HARMONY OF ROCK** | EARLY 70'S ROCK

JULY 23 | **90'S REWIND** | 90'S TRIBUTE

JULY 30 | **ABBAGRAPHS** | ABBA TRIBUTE

»» PRIDE IN THE PARK NIGHT

AUG 6 | **PROM DATE MIXTAPE** | 80'S NEW WAVE

AUG 13 | **MR. PINK** | 90'S & 2000'S

AUG 20 | **DIAMOND STAR HALO** | 70'S GLAM ROCK

Thank you to our
Additional Sponsors



covenant living
COMMUNITIES & SERVICES

2026

PRIDE NIGHT



in the park

PRESENTING SPONSORS



AIRSTREAM
ADVENTURES
SEATTLE

**THURSDAY, JULY 30TH
6:30-8:30PM
MERCERDALE PARK**

**CELEBRATE PRIDE AND
JOIN US FOR THE
MOSTLY MUSIC CONCERT
FEATURING**

THE ABBAGRAPHS

MUSIC, VENDORS & PRIDE!

Thank you to our
Additional Sponsors



covenant living
COMMUNITIES & SERVICES



Shakespeare *in the Park*



7pm Shows

- JULY: 9th, 10th, 12th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 22th, 29th & 30th
- AUGUST: 7th

6pm Shows

- AUGUST: 12th, 13th, 14th & 16th



Luther Burbank Park Amphitheatre, 2040 84th Ave SE, Mercer Island, 98040

MERCER ISLAND SUMMER CAMPS

CODING WITH KIDS

5-12 yrs. 6/22-97 (Weekly)

CURIOSITY CAMP

5-12 yrs. 8/10-13, 7/17-920

EXCEL WITH CHESS

6-12 yrs. 7/16-113, 5/37-377

GAMEBREAKER LACROSSE

5-16 yrs. 6/22-625-120-723

LEGO CAMP

5-11 yrs. 6/22-626, 7/23-7713, 7/20-724, 7/27-7131

MERCER ISLAND ROWING CLUB

18-18 yrs. 6/23-7113, 7/17-7113, 8/77-874

PETALS ART CLUB

5-18 yrs. 7/16-77, 7/16-715, 8/27-812, 8/70-812, 8/77-820

REVOLUTION INDOOR VOLLEYBALL

5-18 yrs. 7/17-7113, 8/27-876

REVOLUTION SOFTBALL

5-18 yrs. 7/17-7113, 8/27-876

SKYHAWKS SPORTS

4-22 yrs. 6/22-6/21/Weekly)

SOCCER FUN CAMP

3-12 yrs. 6/26-626, 6/27-713, 6/17-7713, 8/14-713, 8/17-814, 8/24-825

TGA: TENNIS GOLF & PICKLEBALL

5-13 yrs. 6/22-8/21 (Weekly)



REGISTER TODAY

WWW.MERCERISLAND.GOV/SUMMERCAMPS





Mercer Island Community & Event Center

SPECIAL 20% DISCOUNT OFFER

USE THE CODE
SUMMERDEAL26 IN YOUR
RENTAL REQUEST FORM
TO REDEEM YOUR ROOM
RATE DISCOUNT.

Book any available date through
December 20, 2026 at the MICEC and
lock in this limited-time discount on new
bookings.

Must book by August 31

*No matter the occasion, we make gathering
together affordable and unforgettable. Discount
not applied to any optional add-on fees.*

Fill out your rental request form at

www.eventsonmercercer.com

Play More, Pay Less 20% off Athletic Field Reservations

Now-August
Use Promo Code:
SUMMERDEAL26

25 different facilities to choose from



www.fieldonmercercer.com



Arts Council Planning Schedule

- **Oct 21, 2026**
 - 2025 – 2026 Workplan Update
 - AIPP Annual Update
 - 2027 – 2028 Arts & Culture Workplan Priorities & Objectives

Thank you!

