

Meridian's Public Art Program

Based on the findings of Meridith McKinley, Public Art Consultant



Top Priorities

1. Strengthening Meridian's Identity
2. Developing Meridian as a Creative City
3. Creating Active and Attractive Public Spaces

#1 Strengthening Meridian's Identity

What is the IMPACT that public art should have in Meridian?

- Public art should be **memorable and iconic** (50.3%)
- Public art should **enhance the identity of Meridian** (43.0%)

#1 Strengthening Meridian's Identity

What is the IMPACT that public art should have in Meridian?

- Public art should be **memorable and iconic** (50.3%)
- Public art should **enhance the identity of Meridian** (43.0%)

According to the public, Meridian's identity is:

- History-based, agricultural roots
- Associated with the natural environment
- Small town feel



Far and Away, Sector Seventeen, 2018



Native Grasses, C. J. Rench, 2016

#2 Developing Meridian as a Creative City

Keeping it Local

- 42% respondents said it is important that public art *supports the development of local artists to develop a public art practice*
- 56% respondents want to see *work by local and regional artists in Meridian*



New Trout, Charles Haman, 2017



Ensemble Cast, Monelle Smith, 2020



In the mind of a teenage woman,
Aeryn Waterman, 2020

#3 Creating Active and Attractive Public Spaces

Where do you take visitors to show them what Meridian is all about?

- Parks (90)
- The Village (74)
- Downtown (58)

Public art can be a tool to make these distinctive, attractive environments that people want to use and inhabit.

What areas of Meridian are the best opportunities for public art?

- Parks (75.6%)
- Downtown (67.4%)

#3 Creating Active and Attractive Public Spaces

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- The Village (74)
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What kind of artwork is appealing to the public?

Functional Art: artwork that enhances existing infrastructure or dual purpose artwork

Interactive Art: also dual purpose artwork or artwork that comes to life with the interaction of people

#3 Creating Active and Attractive Public Spaces

3. Of these projects, pick up to five that you think are visually interesting and represent the type of art you think would be successful in Meridian.



1 - "Community Bookshelf," Kansas City, MO



2 - "Gazebo," Whitesavage + Lyle, Seattle, WA



3 - "Beacon Bloom,"
Arlon Bayless, Carmel, IN



4 - "Main Street Seating,"
Cliff Garten, Salt Lake City, UT



5 - "Westmoreland Park," Adam Kuby, Portland, OR

Next Steps

The Arts Commission plans to implement these conclusions and priorities into a new Public Art Plan to be completed March 2021