

# ANNUAL REPORT

**2017**

## MISSION / ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The County’s 1% for Art program was established through Local Law #6 of 1986. Its Guidelines (Standard Operating Procedures) were approved by the County Legislature March 7, 2006. Its mission is “to enhance the quality of life in Rockland County through Public Art.” It is in its 31st year, and Art in Public Places (AIPP) has placed 46 artworks at accessible County sites.

AIPP functions under the guidance of the AIPP committee. AIPP committee members: Co-chairs Erin Martin (Monsey) and Ken Linsner (Sloatsburg), members Shari Fischberg (Upper Nyack), Emily Harvey (Garnerville), Pat Hickman (Haverstraw), Carl Opalek (New City), Frances Wells (Piermont), Judy Esterow (Suffern) Dan White (Nyack) and Dan Sherman (Sparkill). Represented areas of their expertise include: landscape architecture, fine arts, photography, graphic design, art history, art education, curatorial, art appraisal, conservation, restoration, technology, art publishing, illustration and arts marketing. AIPP’s logo was designed by committee member, Carl Opalek.

Rockland County Executive Ed Day is supportive of new projects, and the committee works closely with him in the approvals process.

AIPP functions under the Department of General Services lead by Bob Gruffi, Director of Facilities Management. Bob provides AIPP with technical advice for its projects and helps AIPP work efficiently with the various branches of County government including The County Legislature, the Dept. of Budget and Management, the Dept. of Law, the Parks Dept., and the Highway Dept.

**LEGISLATURE HONORS AIPP MEMBERS**

The Rockland County Legislature, at the initiation of Harriet Cornell a co-sponsor of the original County 1% for Art Law, recognized the dedicated work of past and present AIPP committee members with certificates of honor presented at a public meeting. An AIPP video showed the remarkable range of public art projects that the committee has selected and placed over the years.

**Rockland Center for the Arts administers all aspects of the AIPP program. Julianne Ramos serves as Administrator.**

**2017 PROJECTS IN PROCESS**

**Bridge St. Bridge Project**

**Piermont, NY**

This lighting design project is in progress. The LED lights have been received and are stored with Piermont Public Works Dept. The committee is working on a solar energy system to make it a “green” project. A grant from the Green Mountain Sun Club is pending to cover the cost of solar. A public dedication for the completed project will be scheduled in 2018 at dusk with a celebration including a performance by Tom Chapin and the Chapin Family Singers, and a line dance over the bridge. Landscape Architect, Dan Sherman leads the project with Frances Wells and Shari Fischberg on the committee.

**Fire Training Center**

**Pomona, NY**

Sculptor Eric David Laxman of Upper Nyack was selected for his aluminum, wood and concrete bench design featuring a laser-cut firehouse motif. Two identical benches will provide decorative and functional seating for the front of the building. The project is now in process and is expected to be completed in Spring of 2018. The subcommittee consists of Erin Martin, Chair, Emily Harvey, Pat Hickman and Dan Sherman.

**2017 NEW PROJECTS**

**Demarest Kill Park**

**New City, NY**

An RFQ notice was sent for the purchase of a sculpture. September 15, 2017 was the deadline after which the committee reviewed the entries and made a selection of 3 finalists whose work they will see before a final decision is made. The County approvals and contracting process will take the completion of the project into 2018. The subcommittee for this project is Pat Hickman, Chair, Dan White, Frances Wells, Carl Opalek and Erin Martin.

**RCC Campus Project**

**Suffern, NY**

This new project was slated to begin in the late fall of 2017, but with a new President at RCC it will be launched in 2018. The site on campus has not yet been selected and will determine the type of artwork that is commissioned.

The subcommittee is Chaired by Ken Linsner.

**2017 COMPLETED PROJECTS**

**County Legislative Office Building**

**New City, NY**

***Waves of Change*,** a 12’ tall abstract Corten steel and glass sculpture was dedicated in May 2017 in a public ceremony in front of the County Office & Legislature Building with remarks by County Executive Ed Day, Legislator Harriet Cornell, and AIPP Co-chair Ken Linsner. Video was posted on the County

Facebook page.

**County Legislative Office Building**

**New City, NY 10956**

A portrait of former County Executive

C. Scott Vanderhoef was installed in the Press Room and dedicated in a well-attended public ceremony in May 2017. Mr. Vanderhoef, Mr. Day and the artist, Janet Chieffo spoke.

**Yeager Health Center Sculpture**

**Pomona, NY**

In Spring of 2017, sculptor Doris Laughton of New City installed “Candy Splat”, a colorful contemporary sculpture made of steel coated with high gloss automotive enamel in front of Building A at the Yeager Health Complex. The sculpture had a public dedication in October 2017. Signage was installed and the base surround was landscaped.

**Artist-Designed Bus Shelter**

**Yeager Health Center, Pomona, NY**

In June 2017, Bill Hochhausen of Pomona completed a detailed restoration of a bus shelter he originally designed and installed in front of Building A at the Yeager Health Center that had fallen into disrepair. The bus shelter had a public dedication in October 2017, the same day as Candy Splat, and attended by County Executive Ed Day, Legislator Harriet Cornell and other County officials.

**2017 CONDITION ASSESSMENTS & CONSERVATION OF EXISTING PUBLIC ARTWORK**

Over the years, public artwork can

deteriorate and require restoration.

Maintaining County-owned public artwork respects the integrity of the artwork and the viewing public, and preserves the value of objects that are a part of the County’s asset base.

**2017 ART CONSERVATION PROJECTS**

**RCC Neon Sculpture**

**Suffern, NY**

The damaged Stephen Antonakos sculpture was repaired and reinstalled in August 2017.

**Conservation Committee Review & Reporting**

In May and July 2017, members of AIPP’s Conservation subcommittee including appraiser and conservator Ken Linsner of Sloatsburg, NY, reviewed existing AIPP-commissioned artworks and issued condition reports on the types of conservation work needed. AIPP arranges for the restorations or repairs.

# 2017 AIPP ORGANIZATIONAL & EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

## AIPP Community Outreach

In May, 2017 AIPP participated in Garnerville’s 2-day Art Festival. AIPP ran a round table discussion that the public joined in to discuss how public art made an impact on their lives and created an awareness of the arts. AIPP displayed large scale photos and scale models of completed public art projects.

## AIPP PR and Photo Archive

The AIPP Committee maintains an archive of video, photos and press coverage of AIPP installations and artworks. Sally Spivack has photographed new and existing installations and Judy Esterow, an experienced art writer, prepared press releases on completed 2017 projects. Press efforts in 2017 have generated numerous mentions for AIPP projects in both local and international media, in print publications, radio, on social media and online.

**AIPP Website**

**www.aipprockland.org**

AIPP’s Website posts calls for entry, and features a current archive of completed projects with photos, descriptions and a clickable site map. Sally Spivack provided new photos to maintain the professional appearance of artworks on the website. An AIPP video is posted on the website for public viewing.

# AIPP Public Announcements

# [www.rocklandartcenter.org](http://www.rocklandartcenter.org)

New Projects are announced and disseminated through RoCA’s Email notification system. RFQ replies are

processed by RoCA staff into a format viewable for selections by the AIPP Committee members. Announcements of Committee vacancies as well as public notices of dedications and new installations are posted through RoCA.

# A COMMUNITY OF ARTISTS

Since the mid-19th Century, Rockland County has attracted world class artists who chose to make this beautiful County in the lower Hudson Valley their home. With such a rich cultural heritage and present, it is fitting that Rockland became the first County in New York State outside New York City to pass a Percent for Art Law that marks its place among those enlightened communities and states that support and display works of publically accessible art. Today, through AIPP, Rockland residents can find significant artwork throughout their County.

To date, 80% of commissions have been awarded to Rockland County artists, as well as bringing to the public the work of accomplished artists beyond our borders. This open exchange of creativity encourages our own artists, who in turn seek public art commissions in other states; it provides work for local vendors hired to do ancillary work; it beautifies the environment in which we live and work; it attracts the attention of visitors; it enhances the reputation of the County; and it ties the community to both the national and international art world.

**Report prepared by**

*Julianne Ramos, AIPP Administrator*

*December 2017*