



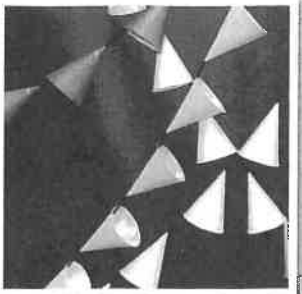
Cortni Harant
 Invocating the Past: Build it & They Will Come
 sponsored by:
 Paris Gibson Square MOA



Mary Warner
 A Beginning
 sponsored by:
 Electric City Coffee



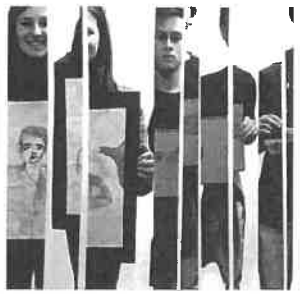
Jenn Volkmar
 Him, Her and Us Journeys
 sponsored by:
 Owen & Gayle Robinson



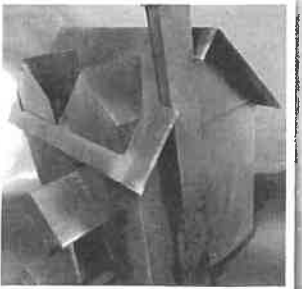
Kelly F. Grandone
 Direction
 sponsored by:
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Tess Jacobs
 Up For Discussion
 sponsored by:
 Downtown Chicks



Betsy Rogstad
 CMR Art Department
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Jerry Sidor
 Rebirth
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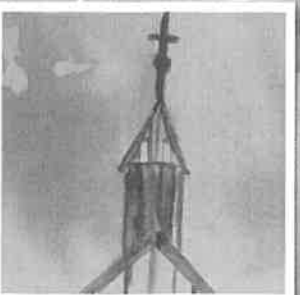
Kristi & Toni Wasson & Elementary Art Students
 Hope, Love, Kindness...
 Pass it on
 sponsored by:
 Downtown GF Assoc.



Jerry Olson
 Undecided Path
 sponsored by:
 GF Business Improvement Dist.



Gwen and Bayley Keele
 A Comforting Glow
 sponsored by:
 GF Public Schools
 Fine Arts Dept



Ryan Kakalecik
 Little Black Church
 sponsored by:
 Kelly Signs

for more information
 visit us at
**greatfallsurbanart.
 weebly.com**



Under the umbrella of
 Paris Gibson Square Museum
 of Art

Free

2019

Winter Exhibit

February 5, 2019

May 5, 2019

Urban Art Project

Great Falls, MT

315 First Avenue South
greatfallsurbanart.weebly.com

Celebration Reception

Monday,

February 25th

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

New Location:

**ELECTRIC CITY
 COFFEE**

319 Central Ave

- GF Business Improvement District
- City of Great Falls Parking Program
- Paris Gibson Square MOA
- Electric City Coffee
- Downtown Chicks
- Kelly Signs
- Owen & Gayle Robinson
- Downtown GF Association
- Gusto Distributing
- GFPS Fine Arts Dept.
- Printing Center USA
- Slingshot Creative Group
- Carol Bronson

Winter, 2019
Urban Art Project
February 5 - May 5, 2019

Urban Art Project
ARTIST'S STATEMENTS

TO BEST TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS PACKET OF ARTIST'S STATEMENTS, BEGIN VIEWING THE EXHIBIT AT THE WINDOW WHICH IS LOCATED NEXT TO THE PARKING GARAGE ENTRANCE ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE BUILDING

ARTIST: Cortni Harant, Invocating the Past: Build it & They Will Come

AS YOU MOVE AROUND TOWARD THE GARAGE ENTRANCE ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE BUILDING THE STATEMENTS WILL FOLLOW THE WINDOWS IN ORDER ENDING WITH....

ARTIST: Ryan Kakalecik, Little Black Church

Or, begin at the south entrance with the back of this packet and move toward the east entrance.

**Primary supporters: Business Improvement District,
City of Great Falls Parking Program and Paris Gibson
Square Museum of Art**

Cortni Harant

Invocating the Past: Build It and They Will Come

Downtown Great Falls was built with a vision of grandeur. Paris Gibson recognized its potential and with financial support from railroad magnet James Hill and businessman Charles Broadwater he planned a beautiful community replete with parks, monumental architecture, and a concise grid work of wide streets and avenues in the late 19th century. His plan worked. Great Falls prospered. In the first decade it witnessed almost a four-fold increase in population. The growth slowed but did not cease with Great Falls doubling in the next thirty years. As time passed and businesses moved to new “centers” of commerce and downtown dwindled, but a new group of visionaries came in to rebuild its grandeur. With it came renovations and new businesses invigorating the downtown area and with that the city planned on meeting the anticipated need of increased parking by offering the Great Falls South Parking Garage. They didn’t just build a minimalist structure, they built a sculptural form with flying arched roofs, exposed cable work and varying surface features including eleven shallow display windows. Initially those spaces were destined for retail advertising, but in 2005 pioneer Jean Price approached the Business Improvement District about hosting installation projects in the eleven windows. It was such a huge success the Urban Art Project was born. Here we are fourteen years later, and the display spaces are in need, particularly window number one. To continue to attract industry and rekindle a vibrant downtown we need to invest in its aesthetic, not just the functional, and I would postulate we aren’t even addressing the functional in the current state of the Urban Art Project spaces with ceiling collapsing, water gathering, and black mold growing. Through my work I hope to evoke the spirit of our founders, those who built this city, and those that have established a culture in Great Falls that values art, artists, and the aesthetic.

Mary C. Warner
A Beginning

Everything has a beginning and an end. The process in between varies. We all go through life's events with many different experiences. My expression of mark making illustrates my own process. This process that we go through is what ties us all together as human beings. It has been going on since the beginning of time. The connections we make with others are vital to our end

Jenn Volkmar
Him, Her and Us Journeys

Often in society it is said we need to include care of the soul as a part of care of surroundings, lives, people and our space. This work captures the travels and places we have been. The piece serves as a personal exploration and reminder of the evaluation and construction of the "US" identity. We have gathered, collected, summarized and extracted cultural journeys over the years and in using the American flag and all its preexisting meanings as a vehicle and a visual tool to represent the memories created. The flag allowed for organization in the process and all of the insignificant items that were meant to only be enjoyed or used for a short time and then discarded. Stubs, tickets, notes, cards, pictures, stickers all have a lot to say about who we are how we live, charities we give to and things we believe in. Often our journeys are short and always have meaning and reasoning for the travel. We use these journeys to refocus and bring us back to a space that allows us to remember our goals, sense of learning and worth in ourselves and "US". The repeated use of numbers with cards and tickets represents important dates in our lives and how often we rely on them to bring us luck and serve as reminder our world constantly measures us in numerical ways from work, to friends, sports, family and government. The piece was coated in layers of sealant and now these disposable pieces of history are encased forever in this treatment to serve as a constant reminder of where we have been and where we want to continue to explore and how it is necessary to center and prioritize what is important.

Kellie F. Grandone
Direction

***Direction* is a self portrait of the twists and turns, derailments and backtracks that my life has taken and continues to take. While everyone around me seems to be on some sort of smooth, straight path, going in some clear direction to some finish line I can't see, I am struggling to get my act together. Perhaps it just seems that way, buried in my own chaos. I have a hunch that the colorful, irregular and indirect path may be more relatable than I previously thought.**

Tess Jacobs
Up For Discussion

"Up For Discussion" explores the effects of technology on children, their development and how we communicate as a culture. Is the information highway increasing educational opportunities or creating a disconnect from humanity? Who will be the master? Man or technology? How do we teach our students to use the "tool" or will they become the "tool"?

Betsy Rogstad
Some Cuts Won't Heal

Great Falls Public Schools have endured huge cuts in the last few years but the Art Department has been weathering cuts for much longer. In the last 10 years the department has been devastated by a 40% loss of program. My installation is inspired by the students who have tried to get into our high school Art Department but have been shut out because of the department's small size. It's painful to see young artists deprived of their area of expertise and identity. The students I used for my installation are students that recognize themselves as artists and haven't been able to access an art class because of the lack of space. I teach in a department with 3 art

rooms. There is only two of us. I feel in my heart that these students have lost valuable experiences and an understanding of themselves by being denied their study through the language they know best, the language of art.

"I don't want Art for a few any more than I want education for a few, or freedom for a few." William Morris

Jerry M. Sidor
Rebirth

This artwork is about realizing and expressing optimism and growth. After going through the grief that comes from loss, it is refreshing to feel the rebirth of positive emotional life. Creating an artwork like this is intensely therapeutic - from the incubation of divergent thoughts and feelings, honing a initial idea, to taking action and making the work.

Kristi & Tori Wasson & Elementary Art Students
Hope, Love, Kindness...Pass it On

I am an elementary art teacher in the Great Falls Public School System. I teach approximately 2,000 students and have included some of them from West Elementary in this display. I am fortunate to also teach art to my daughter Tori, who helped with the concept, creation and installation.

Both Tori and I feel that art is an important part of the education system in completing the academic and emotional well being of a student. The creativity and creation process is not a privilege, it is a necessity. Students learn more than just art in the art room. They learn how to get along with others, how to treat each other with respect, how to support each other and celebrate each other's differences. Therefore we have titled our piece...Hope, Love and Kindness...Pass it On.

Jerry Olson
Undecided Path

Having grown up in Montana, I always thought the only way I'd be accepted as an artist was if I did wildlife and rural scenes. I also thought just working in pencil would not be taken seriously. Then one day I saw the artwork of Don Greytak. It totally gave me hope. Now...what do I focus on? I don't hunt, I didn't grow up on a farm, I don't live in the country. I played sports, especially baseball. So I started doing sport art. I connect with it and I thoroughly enjoy working on sports figures. Lately I've tried photography and watercolor and some graphic art influence. My title as *Undecided Path* represents ME. I don't know which direction I am going to focus on. Time will tell.

Gwen and Bayley Keele
A Comforting Glow

When we see the beauty of birds that surround us, that is truly the reason we love drawing birds. They bring nature to us and allow us into their world for even a brief moment. The light is also a focus in our world, as it guides us and keeps us comforted when we know everything in the world isn't always right. Therefore together the bird and the light make a combination that allows them to become a very powerful existence. This we feel promotes beauty and comfort in our existence while allowing the serenity and calm to be with us every day.

Ryan Kakalecik
Little Black Church

The Little Black Church is an exploration of time spent traveling this summer to Iceland. The use of color and style helps to create extreme changes in landscape and architecture that I found there.

