

## ARTS COMMISSION PROJECT UPDATES

### GRANT PROGRAMS

#### Cultural Facility Grants Program

Update: Program is currently accepting applications through June 15, 2026.

#### 2026 EAP & Project Grant Programs

Update: Guidelines are being finalized.

#### Upcoming Events from Grantees

- Cascadian Chorale “[Rachmaninoff Vespers](#),” June 6 & 7, St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church and Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross, respectively
- Bellevue Youth Choirs, “[Connected in Song](#),” June 6 at 3 p.m., First Free Methodist Church
- Anita Wong “[Fish Pond](#),” Jun 7, 11-12:30 p.m., Bellevue Botanical Garden
- International Ballet Theatre, “[Stars of Tomorrow](#),” June 13 & 14, 2 p.m., Meydenbauer Center Theatre
- Art Commons, “[Creative Summit](#),” June 13, Issaquah Farmers Market
- Seattle Chamber Music [concert truck](#) June 20, noon, Ashwood Playfield, and June 21, 4 p.m., Downtown Park, and June 28, 11 a.m., Bellevue Botanical Garden
- Theatre33, “[Constellations](#)” June 26 and 27, 7 p.m. at Theatre33.
- Rohini Mathur “[Bees & Butterflies in Bloom](#),” June 27, 10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. Bellevue Botanical Garden
- [Japan Fair](#), June 27 and 28 at the Meydenbauer Center

### PLANNING PROJECTS

#### BelRed Arts District

Update: The Planning Commission heard the latest update on the BelRed Land Use Code Amendment on May 27. Arts policy priorities for the land use code include:

- Incentivizing affordable space for arts and cultural uses
- Providing for and encouraging the development of flexible and affordable arts live/work units
- Permitting arts-focused retail and artisanal manufacturing
- Supporting development of affordable artist housing

#### Economic Development Plan

Update: The Economic Development Plan was adopted by City Council on April 28, 2026.

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## Grand Connection Crossing Art Plan

No update to report.

## Public Art Collection & Maintenance Outdoor Event Venue Feasibility Study

Piloti received its annual cleaning on May 22.  
No update to report.

## Temporary Public Art Projects

### Performing Arts Center Market Analysis, Operations Validation, and Fit Study

Update: The nearly 10,000-square-foot mural in BelRed is being installed. Below is the concept statement from the artist, Rabi  
Update: A Request for Proposals (RFP) for Market Analysis, Operations Validation, and Fit Study  
opened on May 7. Proposals are due on June 4.  
and Christopher Derek Bruno.

"Rent Free"

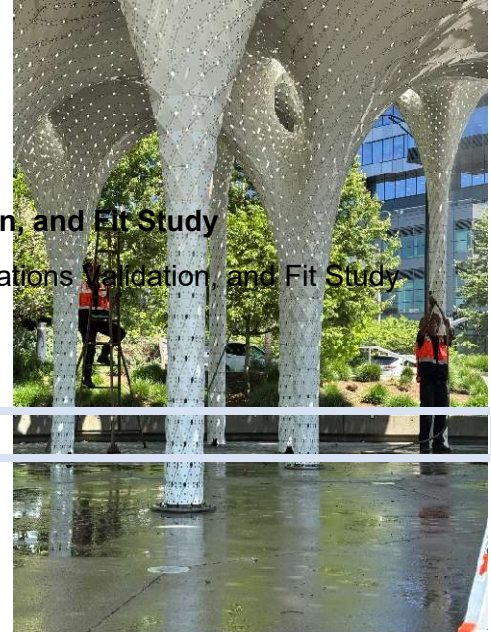
**PUBLIC ART** reflects a landscape shaped not by a single story, but by the continuous relationship between land, labor, and life. It draws from the region's history of berry farming, fishing, basket making, and more. Practices rooted in attention, repetition, and care. These ways of working with the land sit alongside the growth of the city, suggesting that progress and tradition are not separate, but intertwined.

Across the mural, human and nonhuman life move together: animals pass through, fish return, birds watch from above, these figures are not symbolic ornaments but active participants, each carrying its own patterns, territories, and rhythms. The Cascade Mountains remain steady, holding a longer timeline than any human system placed before them.

The work considers coexistence. Not as an idealized harmony, but as an ongoing negotiation. Human progress has often been defined by extraction and control, yet the same environment continues to offer models of balance, interdependence, and restraint. The work asks what it might mean to build a future that does not erase these lessons.

Color operates as a parallel structure within the composition. A spectral gradient drawn from a study of the hues present across the world's national flags acts to bind the collage-based imagery, moving across figures + landforms + sky without hierarchy. As viewers move past the wall, tonal relationships expand and compress, offering moments of contrast+ harmony+ emphasis. In this way, Color functions not only as structure, but as a language of shared beauty and exchange, carrying a global vocabulary through this landscape rooted in place.

Rather than separating culture from nature, this piece brings them into a shared field, where farming, making, and gathering exist alongside migration, hunting, and seasonal change. It suggests that sensitivity is not opposed to growth, but necessary to it. The goal is not to present a fixed vision of unity, but to acknowledge the complexity of living together. Human, animal, and land. And to point toward a way of moving forward that is more attentive, more reciprocal, and more aware of what is already here.





Creative Crosswalk designs are finalized and will be installed in July and August. Two artists were hired, Nikita Ares and Kenji Stoll. These crosswalks will be studied for their impact on safety.

Ares, 124th Ave NE & NE 8th St



Ares, 164<sup>th</sup> Ave NE & NE 24th St



Stoll, 106th Ave NE & NE 10th St



Stoll, 132nd Ave NE & Bel-Red Rd



One utility box wrap is complete at the intersection of Belfair LN - NE 10th St and 100th Ave NE with art by Kelly Bjork. This project was generated and funded by the Neighborhood Enhancement Program. Twelve additional utility box locations will be installed this summer.

### Portable Art Collection

No update to report.

### **Eastside Artist Roster**

Update: 268 submitted applications.

### **Grand Connection**

No updates to report.

### **Rooted by Jill Anholt**

No update to report.



### **Crossroads Public Art by Anna Mlasowsky**

Update: The opening celebration is scheduled for June 18th at 3:30 p.m. at Crossroads Park.

### **Emerging Artist Program: Lake Hills Community Park & Lewis Creek Park**

Update: The application closed on May 17, and 82 artists applied. A seven-member selection panel will select finalists to interview. The panel will be composed of one Arts Commissioner, two Lake Hills residents and stakeholders, two Lakemont residents and stakeholders, and two artists and arts professionals. Staff will conduct artist interviews and make a recommendation to the commission for their approval on which artists to move forward with for each site.

### **Factoria Public Art**

Update: The application is open and closes June 7. Eligible artists are welcome to [apply on Submittable](#). As of May 26, 35 artists have applied.

### **Night Blooming by Taiji Miyasaka**

No update to report.