



Providing Cultural Enrichment in Town

Do you know there is a committee that is working to enhance the town's natural beauty, to enrich residents' lives, and to reflect historical and diverse factors that continue to shape the town?

The Los Altos Hills Public Art Committee (LAH PAC) was founded in 2013 by the town council at the suggestion of Karen Druker, the town's former art curator. The committee now includes eight volunteers knowledgeable about art, some of whom are practicing artists. This team is dedicated to selecting, acquiring, and showcasing diverse arts for the benefit of community members. LAH PAC members also explore innovative ways to promote public art and its positive impact on the community through collaboration with residents.

Public art, like all successful art, expresses creativity, imagination, and emotions. It communicates ideas, creates beauty, explores perceptions, evokes feelings, and, sometimes, addresses issues. Here in the heart of Silicon Valley, public art also provides a much-needed balance to a technology-driven culture and analytical ways of thinking.

In just four years, the committee has received donations sufficient to acquire six pieces of outdoor art. That art is installed on town land. All public art in Los Altos Hills is purchased using individual, family, or other sponsors' donations. Although the town does not use public funds to acquire the art, it pays for its installation and annual maintenance.

One piece of sculptural public art was installed in May of this year. The sculpture, titled "Blue," was created by artist and former resident Jean McCandless and donated by her children in her memory. It is aluminum, vibrant blue and lavender-colored and stands an impressive eleven feet tall. "Blue" is the centerpiece of a donated parklet in Edith Park featuring elegant, streamlined wood and metal benches that allow visitors to view and contemplate the art.

To learn more about the Public Art Committee's mission, activities, and art dedications, please send an email to: committeepublicart@gmail.com. Residents are invited to contribute to the planning for and acquisition of future public art.



- 1 *A Tribute to Our Ohlone Roots* by Selena Rodriguez
- 2 *Inspiration Bench* by Michael Gustavson
- 3 *Star Gazers* by Miles Metzger
- 4 *Peaceful Thoughts* by Michael Gustavson
- 5 *Just Kid's Play* by Richard Starks
- 6 *Blue* by Jean McCandless

Robyn Aber is vice-chair of the Los Altos Hills Public Art Committee.