

City of Boston Launches New Boston Art Commission Website

Interactive site provides guide to public art in Boston

Mayor Thomas M. Menino today officially launched the new website of the Boston Art Commission, www.publicartboston.com. The new site, which includes interactive features and a guide to Boston's most creative public art, was created to make it easier for Bostonians to explore and enjoy artwork across the city and highlight the art in their own neighborhoods. The website was funded by a generous grant from the National Park Service and designed by East Boston based Image Conscious Studios.

"There is so much incredible public art across the City of Boston and this wonderful new website will help bring broader awareness and recognition of the great work of the Boston Art Commission, while making it easier for residents and visitors to enjoy the art that helps beautify our city," said Mayor Menino.

Visitors can search the City's art collection, watch videos of artists interviewed in their studios, learn how to initiate new public art projects, access educational materials, and share their own photos of public art. The website also provides an interactive map that plots the latitude and longitude of permanent and temporary pieces and information on upcoming artworks in the community such as *Reach* by Doug Kornfeld, who worked with youth from Hyde Square Task Force to create his latest abstract installation in Mozart Park in Jamaica Plain; *The Value of a Life*, by Fern Cunningham, who worked with Roxbury Action Program to develop her figurative piece exploring youth violence and the value of life; and *Connocion* by Raúl González, a mural in East Boston that stimulates the eye while describing the physical and mental struggle undertaken by many immigrants as they begin to grow accustomed to a new way of life.

Many of the artworks on the website are part of the Boston Art Commission's extensive collection, but there are also pieces featured from other collections, such as local museums, universities, the State and private developers. The launch of this site enables both residents of Boston and visitors to easily access the city's diverse collection of public art.

About the Boston Art Commission

The Boston Art Commission, established in 1890, exercises legal authority to approve and site new public art on property owned by the City of Boston. It is the conviction of the Boston Art Commission that, in order to engender and support a thriving artistic consciousness within the city, community involvement shall extend beyond everyday appreciation to meaningful engagement in the creation, evolving interpretation and ongoing care of artworks throughout Boston's neighborhoods.