



CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION MEETING AUGUST 25, 2026

ALPHARETTA CITY HALL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
2 PARK PLAZA
5:30 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**
4. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**
 - a. **Approval of Cultural Arts Commission Meeting Minutes from June 23, 2026**
Approve, as written, the Cultural Arts Commission Meeting Minutes from June 23, 2026, at 5:30 pm.
5. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. **Public Art Application — Webb Bridge Park Tunnel Mural**
6. **STAFF PRESENTATIONS**
 - a. **Cultural Services Division Monthly Report - August 2026**
Report on the latest updates, projects, events and /or initiatives of the Cultural Arts Division of the Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Department.
7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
8. **ITEMS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS**
9. **ADJOURNMENT**



CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION MEETING

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

JUNE 23, 2026

ALPHARETTA CITY HALL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS | 2 PARK PLAZA | 5:30 PM

The public is advised that the following minutes are not a verbatim transcription of business presented at the Council Meeting of the date shown; but are a synopsis of pertinent information. The public is further advised that the video recording for said meeting is a matter of public record and is available to be viewed at the City Clerk's office during normal business hours or viewed online at <https://www.youtube.com/user/alpharettagov>.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- ❖ Chairwoman Cookson called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

- Cultural Arts Commission Members - Present
 - Melody Cookson (Chair)
 - Susan Hanna
 - Sabine Genet
 - Michael Barsky (Vice Chair)
- Staff
 - Morgan Rodgers, Director – Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
 - Kim Zane, Cultural Services Division Manager – Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
 - Sarah Bausano, Administrative Office Coordinator – Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
 - Lara Haddadin, Cultural Services Staff – Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services

III. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

a. Cultural Arts Commission Meeting Minutes from March 24, 2026

- ❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a motion to approve the minutes.
 - Vice Chair Barsky offered a motion to approve the minutes, as written, from the March 24, 2026, Cultural Arts Commission Meeting.
 - Commissioner Genet seconded the motion.
- ❖ The motion was approved unanimously (4-0-0).

V. NEW BUSINESS

Kim Zane came forward to introduce the program stating there were 10 sculptures being presented, 8 of which will remain in the current sculpture locations and 2 will be put in new locations. The Commission is being asked to vote on each sculpture and location separately. Nancy Murphy with Arts Alpharetta came forward to present the presentation.

- a. **Dazzle and Discord | Nouveau Crane – Outdoor-On-Loan Exhibit for 2026-2028**
 - ❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a motion to approve the Dazzle and Discord, Nouveau Crane – Outdoor-On-Loan Exhibit for 2026-2028.
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VI. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

a. Cultural Services Division Monthly Report – March 2026

- Kim Zane, Cultural Services Division Manager for the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.

VII. CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- Chairwoman Cookson stated that ACT1 Theater has auditions coming for Cotton Patch
- Chairwoman Cookson also stated that her son is going to be performing in the UK in the Greatest Showman.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

IX. ADJOURNMENT

- ❖ Chairwoman Cookson called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- ❖ Vice Chair Barsky made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
 - Commissioner Genet seconded the motion.
 - The motion was approved unanimously (4-0-0).
- ❖ With there being no further business to consider or discuss, Chairwoman Cookson adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Bausano

Sarah Bausano
Administrative Office Coordinator
Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services



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UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

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Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Bausano

Sarah Bausano
Administrative Office Coordinator
Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services



STAFF REPORT

Department: Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
Submitted By: Kim Zane
Meeting Date: August 25, 2026

AGENDA ITEM:

Public Art Application — Webb Bridge Park Tunnel Mural

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

There is one alternative to this item:

1. To deny approval of the proposed public art mural and request the applicant to make additional modifications to present later.

ITEM DESCRIPTION:

Project Overview:

The City of Alpharetta Cultural Services Division, in partnership with the Natural Resources Commission and Arts Alpharetta, is proposing the installation of a nature-themed mural within the Webb Bridge Park tunnel. The selected artist, Sarah Emerson, is known for her vibrant and painterly works. Her portfolio can be viewed at: <http://www.sarahemerson.com/murals>.

Design & Review Process:

The Natural Resources Commission collaborated closely with Ms. Emerson to develop a mural that highlights native plants, animals, and insects, emphasizing the ecological importance of Webb Bridge Park.

The proposed design aligns with the character of the park's nature trail and enhances the visual walking path experience for visitors. By highlighting native plants, animals, and insects, the artwork serves as an informal learning opportunity for visitors, reinforcing the ecological significance of the park's natural habitat.

On June 21, 2026, the Natural Resource Commission formally approved both the artist and the mural concept. The design was subsequently presented to the Public Art Review Committee on August 17, 2026, where the mural was approved as proposed.

Project Preparation & Timeline:

Preparation of the tunnel will include vegetation removal, pressure washing, and priming. Upon completion of this work, the artist will begin painting. The estimated painting timeline is 2–4 weeks, weather permitting.

Budget Summary:

The project budget totals \$30,000, allocated as follows:

- \$10,000 – City preparation and finish layers
- \$20,000 – Artist compensation, funded by:
 - \$2,000 Natural Resources Commission
 - \$6,000 Arts Alpharetta
 - \$12,000 City Cultural Services Division

Public Art Integration & Maintenance:

The project reflects Alpharetta's commitment to environmental stewardship and public art, reinforcing the city's identity as a place that values creativity, nature, and community engagement.

Once installed, the mural will be added to the City's Public Art Walk Story Map and accompanied by two plaques: an artist plaque and a learning plaque on both ends describing the concept and significance of the work.

The City of Alpharetta will incorporate the mural into its ongoing Public Art Maintenance Plan to ensure long-term preservation.

Public Art Review Committee Recommendation:

Tunnel Mural is Approved as Proposed.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Webb Bridge Mural Tunnel_Emerson_Public Art Application
2. Webb Bridger Tunnel_Artist Statement & All Images_08_04_2028
3. Tunnel Mural_Full Image with Grid
4. Tunnel Entrance 2
5. Tunnel Mural _Before & After Images



2026 Public Art Application

Applicant Contact Name: _____

**Application Contact plans and/or funds the proposed public art.*

Contact Role (Choose One): ☐ Developer ☐ Artist ☐ Community Group ☐ Other

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Public Art (Choose One): ☐ Mural ☐ Sculpture ☐ Memorial ☐ Community Art

☐ Integrated Architectural ☐ Landscape Architectural Work

Images (3) Three Enclosed: ☐ YES ☐ NO **Applicant must submit three (3) images with different vantage points for proposed public art piece. One (1) image of the (3) must reference the scale/size of the piece (Example- have a person in the photo with the art work). Artist renderings are acceptable.*

Artist Name: _____

Artist Contact (Website/ Email/Phone/Resume): _____

Maintenance Plan Enclosed: ☐ YES ☐ NO

**Maintenance plan for the proposed public art is required with application. Plan must include a description of all materials; how the piece was created; paint colors specifications; and so on as it applies to the piece.*

Proposed Public Art Location Address: _____

Location Photos Enclosed: ☐ YES ☐ NO

**Photos of proposed public art location is required with application. Location photos must show the surrounding area and different vantage points. List in a separate word document any businesses, residents, etc. that might view the proposed public art on a daily basis.*

Describe the surroundings and how it fits the proposed location: _____

Owner of Property: _____

**Attach a Letter of Permission from the Property Owner to Install the Public Art Piece and length of agreement.*

Name of Conclusive Owner of Proposed Public Art: _____

**Final owner and responsible party for long term maintenance of the piece.*

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Email the following as separate attachments to Kim Zane, Cultural Services Manager

kzane@alpharetta.ga.us

☐ Public Art Application (Page 1 Completed)

☐ (3) Images of Proposed Public Art

☐ Maintenance Plan

☐ Location Photos of Proposed Public Art

☐ Letter of Permission from Property Owner to Install Public Art Piece

**All above requirements must be completed for a Public Art Committee Review to be scheduled.*



PAGE (2) STAFF TO COMPLETE

Public Art Review Committee Criteria & Discussion:

**Below is for Public Art Committee only and will be completed during your proposed public art review. Please read through and be prepared to discuss during the review.*

	YES	NO
1. Public Art is handmade and original; not a reproduction	_____	_____
2. Overall quality & construction of the piece is of high standards	_____	_____
3. Strength and power of public art piece is good to above average	_____	_____
4. Public Art will add to the overall location	_____	_____
5. Any concerns about messaging that could be misinterpreted	_____	_____
6. Scale of the piece fits the location	_____	_____
7. Piece meets consensus of community standards	_____	_____

Additional Comments: _____

Public Art Review Committee Recommendations:

_____ **Approved as Proposed**

**Route to Alpharetta Cultural Arts Commission for final approval. Meetings occur on the fourth Wednesdays of the month so please plan appropriately.*

_____ **Approved with Minor Modifications / No Further Review Required**

**Applicant & Review Committee agree to modifications. Route to Cultural Arts Commission for final approval.*

_____ **Approved with Modifications / Further Review Committee Discussion Required**

**Applicant works on modifications. A second Public Art Committee review will be scheduled when modifications are submitted to Cultural Services Manager.*

_____ **Declined / Request for New Proposal / Further Discussion Optional**

**Applicant revises approach with Public Art Review Committee recommendations and resubmits application with a new proposed public art piece.*

Alpharetta Cultural Arts Commission Final Monthly Review:

Added to Agenda: _____ Commission Review Date: _____

**Final reviews takes place on the fourth Wednesdays of the month with agendas on the third Wednesday, so please plan appropriately. Once approved, activation of public art piece may begin.*

Alpharetta, Webb Bridge Park tunnel mural design *4th Edit 8/4/2026

Budget (*to be finalized, estimated \$20,000) Budget is based on preliminary discussions. If reduced, modifications to the design may be necessary. I have waived my design fee.

Theme: Nature Matters/Walking, inspired by the Henry David Thoreau essay.

Thoreau Quotes that inspired the design:

"I have a room to myself, it is nature." & "All good things are wild and free."

Imagery for the design was sourced from my walk on the Webb Bridge Park Trail and includes shapes and natural elements taken from native plants and flowers.

Quote on the rocks: "All good things are wild and free."

Text directly from Walking, an essay by Henry David Thoreau, copyright free.

Using a quote from a historical figure elevates the imagery, making it a timeless landmark for the community and the broader mission to connect with nature. The Thoreau quote is a call to love and protect the wildness and wonder of our natural environment. This path is free and for everyone. To walk on the path and engage with nature is freedom, freedom to discover, to be imaginative, and freedom to participate in that wildness for a brief moment.

Natural elements currently included in the design:

Native fire azalea (orange flowers)

Native piedmont azalea (pinkish purple blooms)

Cone flower (echinacea)

Sweet Bay Magnolia

Dragonflies

A Bee hidden in the magnolia blooms

Native butterfly species, Viceroy, Red-Spotted Purple, and a caterpillar

Mushrooms

Pond Frog

Pond turtles

Fawn

Barred Owl

Dogwood blossoms

Magnolia blossoms

Hummingbird

Ladybug

Ruby throated hummingbird

Community engagement proposal

Based on the location and necessary scaffolding, a community paint day is not recommended. I will prepare a Webb Bridge Park postcard kit and coloring sheets to be left at the Alpharetta recreation centers. The workshop kit comes with instructions, sticker sheet, and a stamped blank postcard for drawing on and mailing to friends or family. The kit encourages kids of all ages to draw the animals and plants found in Webb Bridge Park. They can draw their own pictures or use the provided sticker sheet to decorate their postcard. Postage is included in the first 50 kits, once finished, their postcards can be mailed to anyone they want; friends, neighbors, or family. Coloring sheets will be provided for printing and can be given out at community events or can be left out at the community centers.

Additionally, if a corresponding plaque is posted near the mural we can encourage viewers to participate in an 'eye spy' activity, searching for the different natural elements found in the mural.

Tunnel, approx. 700 sq ft: 2 walls and ceiling. Each wall is 24 x 7 ft, tunnel is approx 21 x 24 ft.

Image will cover both sides of the tunnel walls and ceiling

Detail images and design superimposed on walls and ceiling:



Left top: Creek side wall
Left bottom: Trail side wall
Below: Full image & detail









Tunnel Mural Webb Bridge Park – Before & After Images





STAFF REPORT

Department: Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
Submitted By: Kim Zane
Meeting Date: August 25, 2026

AGENDA ITEM:

Cultural Services Division Monthly Report - August 2026

Report on the latest updates, projects, events and /or initiatives of the Cultural Arts Division of the Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Department.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This report is presented for the Commission discussion and information purposes. No vote or formal action is requested at this time.

ITEM DESCRIPTION:

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS:

- New Fall- Winter Arts & Culture Guide
- The Spotlight Community Stage - Directional Signage
- Artscapes – Outdoor Lamp Post Gallery by Art Alpharetta

MONTHLY INITIATIVES:

- Park Crosswalk Connection – Wills Park Spine
- Dazzle & Discord Outdoor On-loan Exhibit 2026-2028
- RIFF Outdoor On-loan Exhibit 2024-2026
- City Hall - Alpharetta Jr. Art Detective & Alpharetta Jr. Historian Adventure Guides
- Circle of Friends Sculpture – Studio Review
- Alpharetta Arts Center – Ceramics / Kiln

MONTHLY HAPPENINGS:

- a. Arts & Culture Online Calendar <https://www.alpharetta.ga.us/government/departments/recreation-parks/cultural-services>
- b. Alpharetta Music City -- Live Music Calendar
<https://www.awesomealpharetta.com/calendar/category/alpharetta-music-city-live-music/>

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Staff Presentation_Arts & Culture_08_2026

Alpharetta Arts & Culture Report August 2026



ALPHARETTA

ARTS & CULTURE

GEORGIA

FALL - WINTER

SEPTEMBER 2026 - FEBRUARY 2027

Art Classes
Performing Arts
Workshops
Cultural Happenings
Events
Gallery Exhibits

THE CITY OF
ALPHARETTA
ARTS & CULTURE

SHAR

YOUTH

SCHOOL BREAK DAY CLASSES AND CAMPS

(Each class registration link will have a full class description and more details)

Follow the Color Coding for **CLASSES** and **WORKSHOPS**

FALL FAIRY GARDEN - ONE DAY CAMP with Libby Dunkin | AGES 6-10

Welcome to our one-day Fairy Garden Camp - a creative, hands-on experience where children design and build their very own fairy gardens! Campers will explore polymer clay sculpting, painting, and crafting with natural materials before adding real plants to bring their miniature world to life. Please send your child with a snack, a water bottle, and lunch. All materials are provided, and completed fairy gardens will be ready to take home at the end of camp.

Sep 21 M 9a-1p \$75/112.50NR #38068

NEW! ANIMATION STUDIO: STOP MOTION MOVIE MAKING with Snapology | AGES 7-14

In Snapology's Animation Studio, students will do more than just watch movies - they will create their own! Working in teams, participants will learn the fundamentals of stop-motion animation while building scenes, designing characters, and producing their own animated short films using LEGO® bricks and technology. Students will explore storytelling, creativity, collaboration, and basic movie production techniques including scene design, photography, sound effects, and video editing. At the end of the camp, each team will have a completed movie to share with family and friends.

Sep 21-23 M-W 9a-12p \$180/253.50NR #38481

Feb 15-17 M-W 9a-12p \$180/253.50NR #38482

FALL BREAK - SNIFTABLE SNACKS ART with Kidcreate Studio | AGES 5-12

Dive into a sensory adventure at Sniffable Snacks Art Camp! Kids will create amazing projects like a bomb pop that smells fruity and fun, popcorn that smells fresh from the movie theater, and many more Sniffable Snacks! Every masterpiece looks and smells like the real deal - blending creativity and fun with a whiff of magic! Please send your child with a snack, a water bottle, and lunch. All materials are provided.

Sep 21-23 M-W 9a-1p \$195/292.50NR #38077

NEW! TREASURE HUNTERS - ONE DAY CAMP with Libby Dunkin | AGES 6-10

Young adventurers - get ready for an epic journey! Kids will dive into a world of mystery as they create treasure-themed masterpieces like their very own personalized treasure box, sparkly treasures, and an illustrated treasure map filled with clues and surprises. Then the real adventure begins! At pick-up, parents will join their brave treasure hunters to follow the map on a fun-filled quest to uncover a hidden treasure waiting to be discovered! Please bring a snack, a water bottle, and lunch.

Oct 12 M 9a-1p \$75/112.50NR #38097

BOO-TIFUL CREATIONS CAMP with Kidcreate Studio | AGES 5-12

No school? Let creativity glow! Join us for a FUNtastic day of bright, playful, Halloween-inspired (but not spooky!) art projects. Kids will explore their imagination through colorful designs and hands-on creations. Please send your child with a snack, a water bottle, and lunch. All materials are provided.

Oct 12 M 9a-1p \$80/120NR #38081



Register online at: alpharettaga.us/36/arts-culture 5

YOUTH

SCHOOL BREAK DAY CLASSES AND CAMPS

A DAY WITH PICASSO with Kidcreate Studio | AGES 5-12

No School? Let's Picasso! School may be out for Election Day, but we're in session for creativity. Young artists will step into the imaginative world of Pablo Picasso as they explore the bold, colorful, and quirky style of Cubism. Through guided lessons and hands-on projects, kids will learn about Picasso's life and create their own expressive Cubist masterpieces. Space is limited - save your spot today.

Nov 3 Tu 9a-1p \$80/120NR #38082

THANKSGIVING BREAK - CREATE & GIVE THANKS CAMP with Kidcreate Studio | AGES 5-12

This Thanksgiving Break, we're turning creativity into a celebration! Young artists will dive into drawing, clay sculpting, ooey-goopy slime making, and tons of imaginative fun. With every project, kids will explore color, creativity, and gratitude - while having a blast with new friends. Please send your child with a snack, a water bottle, and lunch. All materials are provided.

Nov 23, 24 M, Tu 9a-1p \$195/292.50NR #38080

CHRISTMAS BREAK - SANTA'S ART WORKSHOP with Kidcreate Studio | AGES 5-12

This December, art class turns into Santa's workshop! Kids will decorate their own Gingerbread Houses, draw Santa, paint festive masterpieces, and create ooey-goopy Peppermint Slime. From snowman bubbleheads to playful creations, this camp is packed with creativity, color, and holiday magic. A joyful, hands-on experience full of fun, imagination, and festive cheer! Please send your child with a snack, a water bottle, and lunch. All materials are provided.

Dec 21-23 M-W 9a-1p \$195/292.50NR #38078

NEW YEAR BREAK - WINTER MAGIC MAKERS with Kidcreate Studio | AGES 5-12

Let's get arty this winter! Step into a magical world of snowflakes, sparkles, and frosty fun. In this creative camp, kids will design their own winter-wonderland scenes, craft shimmering snow globes, and create icy masterpieces inspired by the beauty of the season. From snowy textures to glittery creations, every project is filled with imagination, color, and cozy creativity. Please send your child with a snack, a water bottle, and lunch. All materials are provided.

Dec 28-30 M-W 9a-1p \$195/292.50NR #38084

NEW! LAUGHTER ART MINI CAMP with Kidcreate Studio | AGES 5-12

Start the year with the best: art, fun, laughter, and friends! Let's create some of your favorite cartoon characters and bring them to life. Kids will draw, write, and use all their creative juices to make some truly hilarious artwork! Upcoming projects include a snoozy Snoopy and a lasagna-dreaming Garfield - let the giggles begin! Please send your child with a snack, a water bottle, and lunch. All materials are provided.

Jan 4 M 9a-1p \$80/120NR #38083

WINTER BREAK - ALL ABOUT SPARKLES with Kidcreate Studio | AGES 5-12

Is sparkle your child's favorite color? If so, they will love this class! Kids will make brilliant, sparkly masterpieces and learn art terms and techniques as they get messy with clay, paint, and plenty of spectacularly sparkly supplies. Every project they create will glitter, gleam, sparkle, and shine! Please send your child with a snack, a water bottle, and lunch. All materials are provided.

Feb 15-17 M-W 9a-1p \$195/292.50NR #38078



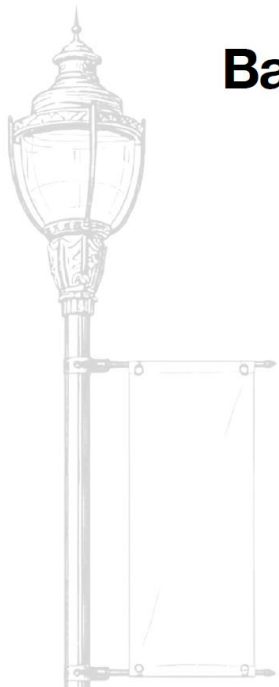
6 Fall-Winter 2026-2027 Guide



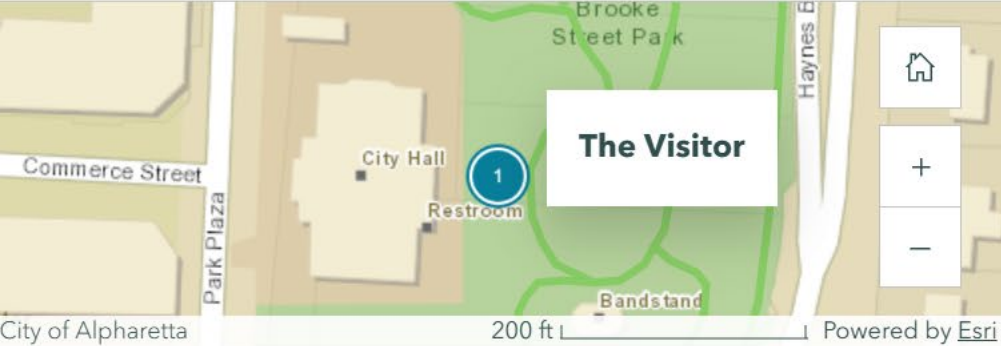
Artscapes New Outdoor Gallery Walking Exhibit by Arts Alpharetta



Banner in location for scale





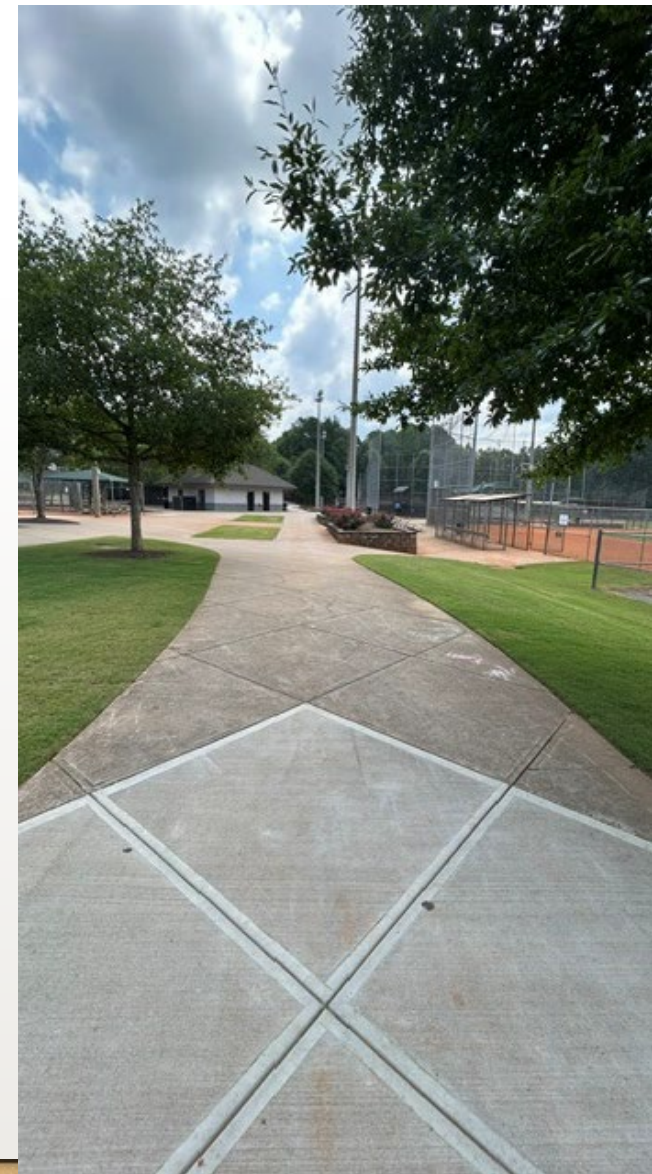
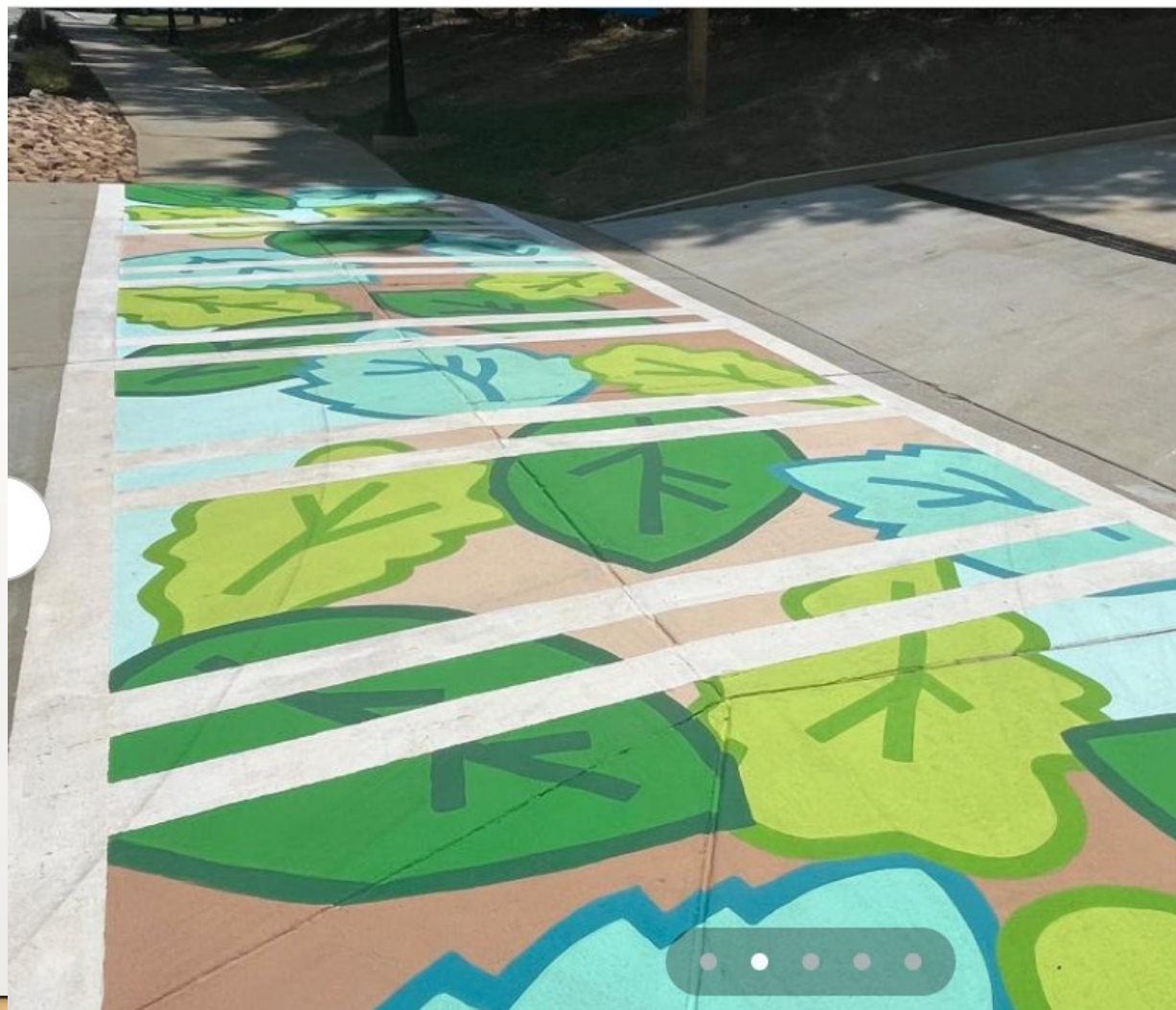


55 Through the Leaves

by Jordan Arjunan

This mural features bold shapes and colors that are inspired by the surrounding environment. As you travel through the leaves, take a moment to pause and reflect on the restorative





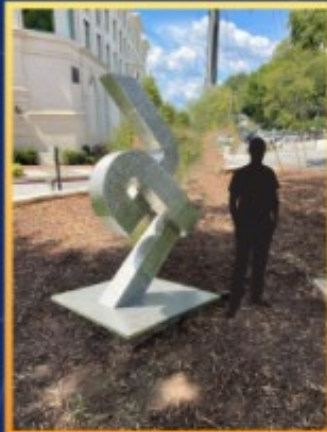




Dazzle and Discord 2026 - 2028



Nouveau Crane



Urban Flow



Rising Spirits



A Crack in the Past



Wonder



Vertex Vortex



Sentry



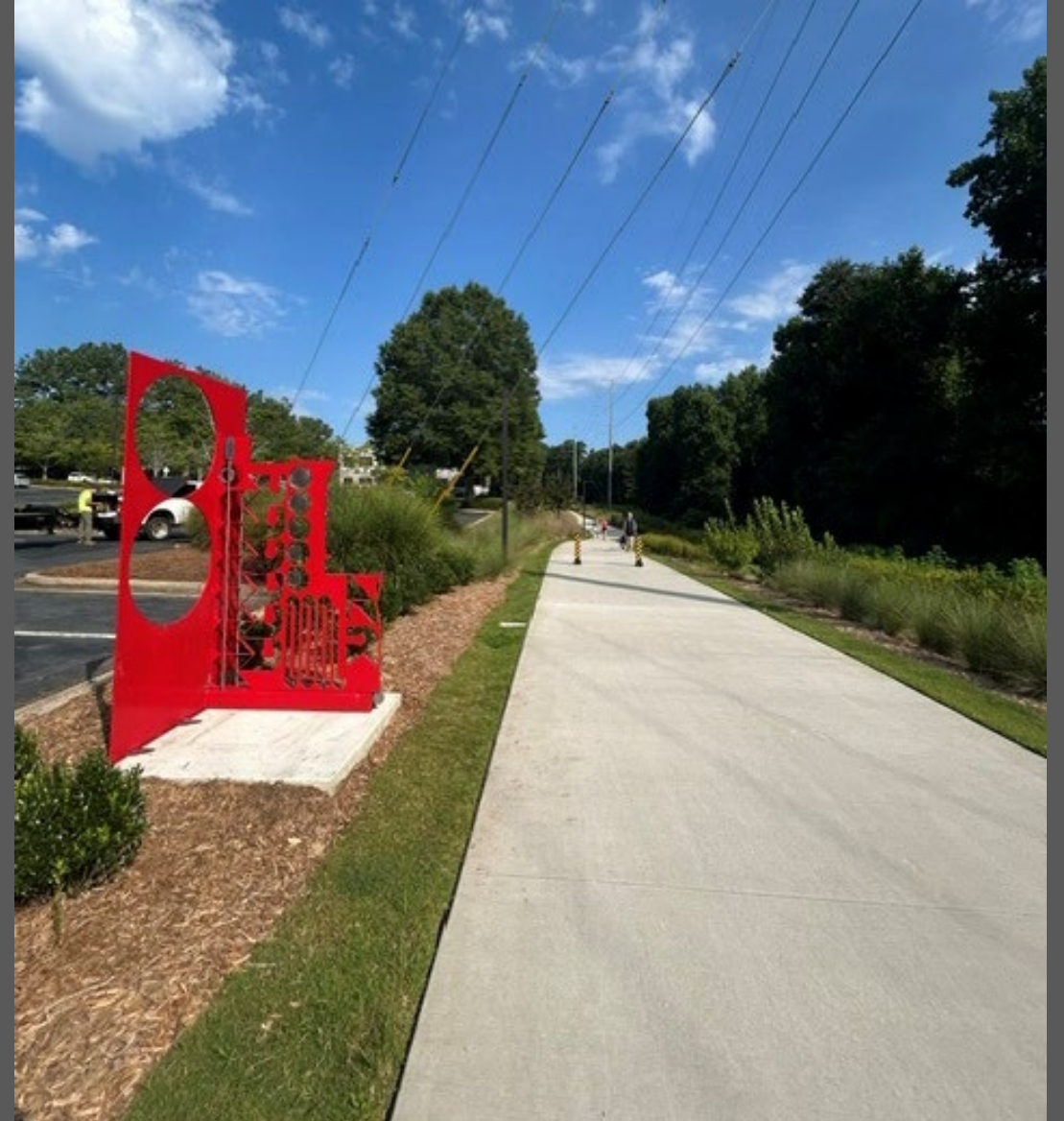
King of the Prairie



Red-Green Construction



FY2024-2026
RIFF Exhibit
Outdoor On-Loan
Reviewing Potential
Purchases &
Partnerships







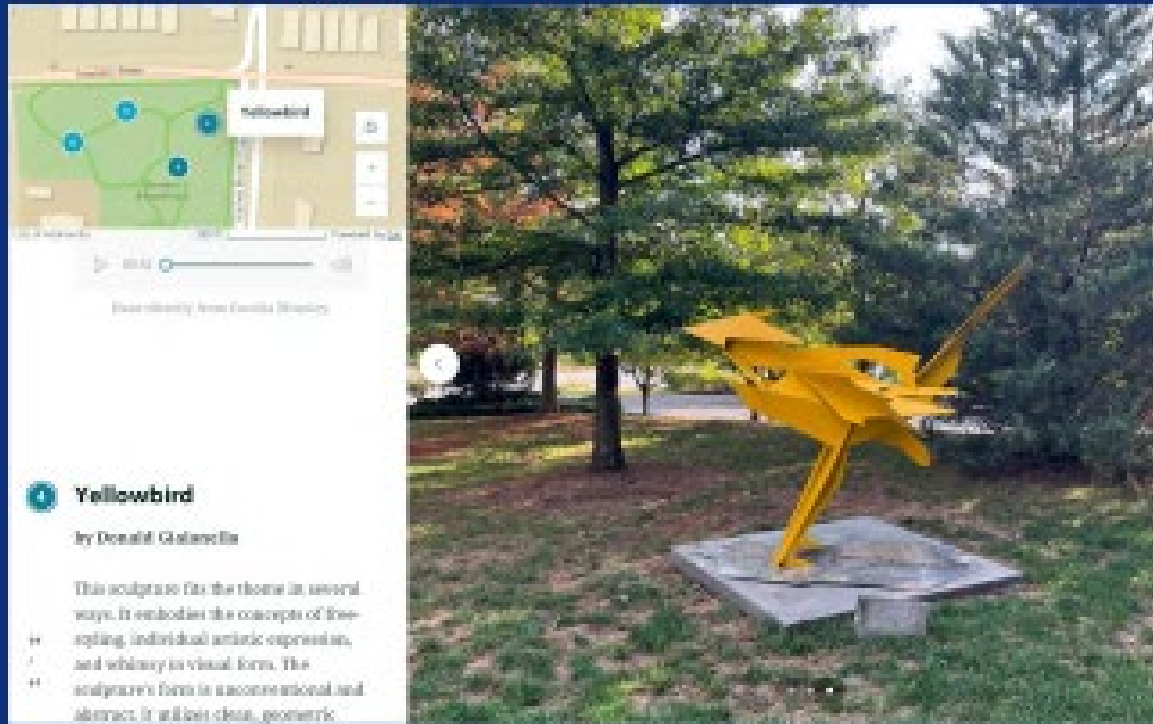
Just One Look

Location

Brooke Street Park at corner of Haynes

Bridge Road and Academy Street

Replacing Yellowbird



WHAT IS PUBLIC ART?

Public art is artwork placed in shared places for the community to enjoy. Sculptures help make cities colorful, creative, and fun!

ART CAN INSPIRE EMOTIONS 😊 😞

- Did any of the sculptures make you feel: happy, curious, excited, calm or silly?

FIND THESE ITEMS/SHAPES AND CHECK THEM OFF AS YOU GO!

- 1 A colorful sculpture
- 2 A metal sculpture
- 3 A sculpture with flowers
- 4 A rectangle
- 5 A circle
- 6 A sculpture of an animal
- 7 A sculpture that makes sounds

SCAVENGER HUNT

DRAW YOUR OWN SCULPTURE AND THEN POSE LIKE IT!

BONUS CHALLENGE

Count how many black-and-white photos you can find

Find a word you don't know and ask what it means

Pretend you lived in Alpharetta 100 years ago — what would your day look like?

By learning about Alpharetta's history, we discover the people and stories that helped shape our city.

SCAN TO WATCH HISTORY COME ALIVE



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@alpharettaarts&culture
www.alpharetta.ga.us
2 Park Plaza Alpharetta,
GA 30009-3721



JUNIOR HISTORIANS ADVENTURE GUIDE

