

Public Art Updates

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Port Commissioner Jess Van Deventer speaks at dedication of Cancer Survivors Park as San Diego Mayor Dick Murphy and donors Richard and Annette Bloch look on. Cancer Survivors Park is the latest donated public art project to be installed on Port tidelands. -- Photo by Dale Frost

Donated Artworks Enrich the Tidelands

Each year the Port of San Diego sets aside a fraction of a percent of its annual projected budget to fund the Public Art Program and the acquisition of new artworks for tidelands properties around San Diego Bay, including the International Airport. This funding has nurtured an impressive and growing collection of public artworks in the Port District. But the region's public art inventory is substantially richer thanks to the generosity of private citizens and civic-minded groups who have donated significant works of public art to the Port. In fact, nearly 30 percent of the total number of public artworks—valued at over \$3.25 million—have come to the Port via donations! An additional \$5.8 million worth of public art projects are now under development. (See

list of current and future artworks and their donors on page 5.)

The donated artworks represent a diverse selection of themes and benefactors. Some, such as the Yokohama Friendship Bell on Shelter Island, the [Leonardo Nierman](#) sculpture "Flame of Friendship" at the Convention Center, and [James Hubbell's](#) "Pearl of the Pacific" at Pacific Rim Park, celebrate San Diego's ties of friendship with its international neighbors around the Pacific Rim.

Some artworks serve to remind us of heroic aspects of San Diego's past and the many who served, and in some cases died, to shape that heritage. Examples include the dramatic "Tunaman's Monument" on Shelter Island, which commemorates the rugged and colorful fishery that once called San

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Public Art Program Enhanced

Revised policy embeds program into development process

On April 23, the Board of Port Commissioners adopted a resolution that will improve the Port's Public Art Program as defined in BPC Policy 609. The changes will impact the method and means of funding the program and will act as a catalyst for expanding the presence of public art in development projects throughout the tidelands of San Diego Bay.

Since the establishment of the Port's current Public Art Program in 1996, funding for art acquisition, commissions and program administration has been supplied through an annual set aside of three-eighths of 1 percent of the Port's projected gross revenues. Under the revised policy, this contribution will increase to one-half of 1 percent in Fiscal Year 2002-03 and to a full 1 percent in Fiscal Year 2003-4.

The second element of the revised policy essentially embeds the program into the development process. A large portion of properties managed by the Port are leased, and the policy was updated to provide consistent guidelines for all properties. This change will strengthen the Public Art Program's role in the Port's design goals.

Percent-for-art programs are widely accepted by municipalities throughout the nation as effective means to incorporate public art into the developed environment and enhance, enliven and activate public spaces. In updating Policy 609 the Port has

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Cancer Survivors Park dedicated



"Cancer...There's Hope" by [Victor Salmones](#) is the centerpiece of "Road to Recovery Plaza" in the new Cancer Survivors Park, which was dedicated on March 2, 2002, off North Harbor Drive.

Over 300 attend dedication of new 'garden of hope and inspiration' near Harbor Island

On Saturday, March 2, a typically sun-drenched, breezy, San Diego afternoon, over 300 guests and dignitaries gathered to celebrate the grand opening of the Richard and Annette Bloch Cancer Survivors Park. Located on two acres of grassy tidelands park and overlooking the yacht marinas of Harbor Island, Cancer Survivors Park combines beautiful artwork, landscaping and architectural elements to create a "garden of hope and inspiration." A health fair, community art project and music added a festive and informative touch to the celebration.

Cancer Survivors Park is the result of a donation from the Richard and Annette Bloch Foundation, Inc. to the Port of San Diego. Richard Bloch, a cancer survivor himself, has developed Cancer Survivors Parks in 15 cities. The parks are a testament to all who have survived cancer and an inspiration to those who have to fight it. In his remarks, Bloch stated, "The purpose of the park is summed up by two words you see on the sign—'cancer survivor.' Our whole purpose is to get people to see these two words so they will fight and not give up."

Annette Bloch added, "The purpose of the park is to give hope and the motivation to fight, not only for life, but quality of life. Remember, cancer is a word, not a sentence."

Following remarks and tributes by Congressman Bob Filner, Port Commissioner Jess Van Deventer and other community leaders, San Diego Mayor Dick Murphy presided over the ceremonial cutting of a red ribbon, signifying the official opening of the park. Many in the audience, which included cancer survivors and friends and families of cancer survivors, were deeply moved.

After the official proceedings, guests retired for refreshments, cake and conversation and an opportunity to marvel at the beautiful structures and artworks of the park. A central focal point of the park, which is common to all Cancer Survivors Parks, is the "Road to Re-

covery Plaza," which showcases a multi-figured bronze sculpture by [Victor Salmones](#). This artwork portrays apprehensive cancer patients confronting and passing through a symbolic maze representing cancer treatment, then emerging triumphant, confident and cured at the other end. The sculpture overlooks a cascading waterfall and tranquil reflecting pool.

Flanking the plaza, two curving walkways comprise the "Positive Mental Attitude Walk." Fabric stretched on tensioned cables provides a shapely awning over the walkways that is evocative of the sailboats in the nearby harbor and the sail-like tension structure atop the San Diego Convention Center. Fourteen motivational bronze plaques along the walk provide words of encouragement and hope as well as specific suggestions for fighting cancer. Seven additional plaques at "Road to Recovery Plaza" discuss cancer, commitment, knowledge, treatments and physical and mental welfare.

Perhaps the most striking feature, conspicuously visible from nearby Harbor Drive, is an open structure topped with a colorful mosaic tile dome. Noted tile artist [Marlo Bartels](#) created special mosaic tile patterns to clad the dome and six inspirational benches within the structure. The floor contains a special inlaid terra cotta mandala centered beneath the dome. Altogether the park

Mosaic tile designs by [Marlo Bartels](#) cover meditative benches in the dome. Each bench has a unique design and name. All were donated by members of the community, as follows: "Celebration" – **National Association of Cancer Patients**; "Health" – **San Diego County Medical Society and San Diego County Medical Society Alliance**; "Hope" – **Cancer Survivorship San Diego**; "Love" – **The Burnham Family**; "Thriving" – **Dani S. Grady and John A. "Jim" Grady**; and "Wellness" – **The Wellness Community**.



features many restful and meditative opportunities for both cancer patients and healthy people alike.

"Cancer Survivors Park," in the words of Annette Bloch, "is not a memorial; it is a tribute to life."

Visit Cancer Survivors Park at the eastern end of Spanish Landing on Harbor Drive. It's across the street from the San Diego International Airport.

Cancer Survivors Park was designed by the Kiner/Hurst Partnership of Palm Desert, California. □

Detail (below) of sculpture "Cancer...There's Hope" by Victor Salmones and (bottom) Marlo Bartels' terra cotta mandala in floor of dome.



Photos page 2 and 3 by Dale Frost.

Donated artworks enrich tidelands ... *continued from page 1*



Port Commission Chairman Stephen P. Cushman accepts maquette of the sculpture "Water Spirit," the Port's most recent artwork donation, from donors Maurice and Jacqueline Watson and the sculptor James T. Hubbell.

Diego home; the "Aircraft Carrier Memorial" at the G Street Mole, overlooking the bay that nurtured the birth of naval aviation, which pays tribute to the 164 carriers that have served in the Fleet to date; and the "Battle of Leyte Gulf Memorial," also at the G Street Mole, which honors the ships and sailors who went down at sea during one of the most desperate and heroic U.S. naval actions of World War II.

The Stanley Bleifeld sculpture "Homecoming" and the Richard and Annette Bloch "Cancer Survivors Park" represent the bravery and quiet heroism of everyday life in San Diego. "Homecoming" depicts a sight common along the naval waterfront, the reunion of young Navy families separated by long sea deployments. "Cancer Survivors Park" off North Harbor Drive is a celebration of life and the ascendancy of the human will and spirit over a killer disease.



Pearl of the Pacific at Pacific Rim Park

Paul Granlund's magnificent bronze sculpture "Charles A. Lindbergh: the Boy and the Man" strides large outside Terminal 2 of San Diego International Airport, welcoming all with outstretched hand to the airport that proudly bears his name—Lindbergh Field—and reminding us of San Diego's seminal role in the development of civilian, as well as military, aviation.

The Port's tidelands provide a magnificent and inviting

setting around the bay for major artwork donations, and, indeed, more are on the way. The Public Art Program is currently working with prospective donors to develop three new public artworks for installation in 2002-03. The "U.S.S. San Diego Memorial" is slated to become a significant waterfront landmark on Harbor Drive at the G Street Mole. This artistic monument will commemorate the gallant wartime service of the Navy cruiser and sailors that carried the name of the City of San Diego during World War II. Nearby, "A Military Tribute to Bob Hope" will honor the famous entertainer and comedian who contributed so much to the morale of America's forces overseas over a span of 50 years. The southern tip of Shelter Island is the future site of "Water Spirit," a mermaid-like bronze sculpture by James Hubbell that will beckon to all sailors who ply the sparkling waters of San Diego Bay.

By encouraging and working with prospective public art donors the Port has greatly facilitated the enrichment of public spaces on tidelands beyond the budgetary scope of its own public art program. It has also provided public access and input to the public art process, enabling civic-minded citizens and groups to provide tangible expression to



Yokohama Friendship Bell



Battle of Leyte Gulf Memorial

works, landscaping, historical objects and other items on tidelands property. A related policy, BPC No. 610, addresses the donation of monuments, memorials and plaques. For more information concerning the Port's policies relating to donated artworks, contact the Public Art Department at (619) 686-7246 or visit the "Public Art" section of the Port's web site where both policies are posted and available for downloading. □

A complete list of the Port's major donated public artworks follows on page 5.



Flame of Friendship

the heroic and artistic impulses that course through our community.

As the public trustee of the tidelands, the Port of San Diego is committed to their continuing aesthetic development and strives to promote community involvement in this process. Board of Port Commissioners Policy No. 611, adopted January 25, 2000, establishes procedures by which the community can participate in the public display of art-



Tunaman's Memorial on Shelter Island



Bubble Bath



Left to Right: Edward Hagerty, Secretary Hope Tribute; Ward Grant, Public Relations Director, Bob Hope; Jack Yusen, President Hope Tribute; Connie Stevens, Honorary Board Member & Entertainer; Anthony Principi, Secretary of Veterans Affairs; Robin Higgins, Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs; and John Ibe, Vice President Hope Tribute, meet in Washington, DC, to discuss plans for the Military Tribute to Bob Hope.

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Public Art Program ...

brought its Public Art Program more into line with accepted practice and has provided the means for public art to have an increasingly positive impact on the attractiveness, character and competitiveness of the region.

BPC Policy 609 can be downloaded from the Port of San Diego's web site: www.portofsandiego.org. □

Public Art Gazette

A report of official actions by the Public Art Committee and the Board of Port Commissioners

Public Art Committee Action:

Dec 13 – Recommended accepting a proposed sculpture donation titled “Water Spirit” from Maurice and Jacqueline Watson for installation near Pacific Rim Park on Shelter Island.

January 9 – Discussion on a proposed landmark signage project was continued to a future meeting.

February 13 – The Committee voted to inform the Port’s Marketing Committee that the Public Art Committee appreciated being asked to consider the landmark signage proposal but is concerned that the proposal 1) did not follow the established public art process, 2) that the proposal would deplete the public art funds, and 3) that the Committee’s approval would be setting a precedent that would compromise the public art process. Applicant was invited to use the in-place Public Art program to find an appropriate image.

February 13 – Recommended approving \$100,000 for a proposed Urban Tree project, and directed staff to proceed with the project in accordance with the approved process outline and additions proposed by District staff.

February 13 – Voted to recognize the Cancer Survivors Park architectural firm, construction company and artists on a web site and in collateral materials in lieu of placing additional plaques at the site.

March 13 – Voted to commend Celestine de la Victoria and Marguerite Elicone for their work on the Cancer Survivors Park dedication ceremony.

May 8 – Selected five finalists for the General Services Building Public Art Project: [Michael Davis](#), [Alber de Matteis](#), [Kim Emerson](#), [Nina Karavasiles](#), and [Thermon Statom](#). □

The Public Art Committee meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Port of San Diego Administration Building

Board Action:

April 23 – Presented awards and prizes to the winners of the 2002 International Aviation Art Contest, themed “Silent Flight.”

April 23 – Approved a resolution amending BPC Policy 609 governing the administration of the Port’s Public Art Program to (1) provide for an increase from 3/8 of 1% set aside of the District’s projected gross revenues to ½ of 1% of the District’s projected gross revenues for FY 02-03 increasing to 1% of projected gross revenues for FY 03-04; (2) include new development on leasehold property in the program; and (3) add the District’s standard deaccession practice to the policy. □

Board Recognizes PAC Member Janene Christopher



Port Commission Chairman Stephen P. Cushman presents a certificate of appreciation to Janene Christopher for six years of exemplary service on the Port of San Diego’s Public Art Committee. Ms. Christopher is a partner in the architectural firm Robbins Jorgensen Christopher. -- Photo by Dale Frost

Donated Public Artworks

Aircraft Carrier Memorial with sculptures by [T.J. Dixon](#) & [James Nelson](#)

Aircraft Carrier Memorial Association
Battle of Leyte Gulf Memorial with bronze bust by [Moon Kim](#)
Task Unit 77.4.3 (Taffy III) Association

Bubble Bath by [Dan Hill](#)
Charlie & Jackie Mann

Cancer Survivors Park with bronze sculpture by [Victor Salmones](#) and tilework by [Marlo Bartels](#)
Richard & Annette Bloch Foundation

Charles A. Lindbergh: The Boy and Man by [Paul T. Granlund](#)
Teledyne Ryan Aeronautical & The Family of T. Claude Ryan

Charles Lindbergh Bust by [Paul Fjelde](#)
Ryan Aeronautical Company

Elefount by [Gary Hughes](#)
Gary Hughes

Flame of Friendship by [Leonardo Nierman](#)
Government of Mexico

Homecoming by [Stanley Bleifeld](#)
San Diego Padres Baseball Club & Navy League of the United States (with Port of San Diego matching funds)

Military Tribute to Bob Hope (pending) by [Tom & Leeann Askman](#)
Task Unit 77.4.3 (Taffy III) Association

Pearl of the Pacific at Pacific Rim Park by [James Hubbell](#)
Pacific Rim Park Corporation

Ron McElliott Memorial by [Ross Barrable](#)
Port Tenants Association (50%)

Spirit of St. Louis Reproduction by [San Diego Aerospace Museum](#)
San Diego Aerospace Museum

Tunaman’s Memorial by [Franco Vianello](#)
Portuguese Historical Center

U.S.S. San Diego Memorial (pending) by [Eugene Daub](#) & [Louis Quaintance](#)
U.S.S. San Diego Memorial Association

Water Spirit (pending) by [James Hubbell](#)
Maurice & Jacqueline Watson

Yokohama Friendship Bell by [Masahiko Katori](#)
City of Yokohama, Japan □

Cancer Survivors Park near Spanish Landing in San Diego was dedicated on March 2, 2002. (See story on page 2.)



Photo by Dale Frost

Port of San Diego Public Art Committee Members

- Margaret Brezel (Chair)
Imperial Beach
- Melody Cernitz
Chula Vista
- Martha Ann Youngberg
Coronado
- Kathleen Smith
National City
- Donald Reeves
San Diego
- John Vissat
Port Tenants Association

- Members at-large:
- Teresa Barker
- Anthony Block
- Jesus Dominguez
- Debra Owen

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Subscriptions: The *Public Art Updates* newsletter is available free of charge to anyone interested in the Port of San Diego's Public Art Program. Contact the Port's Public Art Department at (619) 686-7247 to be added to the mailing list.

How to Get Involved

Community involvement: The success of public art depends on the involvement of its patrons. While many artists actively engage the public in their work, community representatives also provide a vital balance to the decision making process by participating on art committees and at project development meetings. Those interested in participating in the development of upcoming projects should contact the Port's Public Art Director.

Artist involvement: Artists who wish to be considered for public art commissions should submit the following materials to the Port's Public Art Department, Attn: Artist Registry:

- A current resume or curriculum vitae
- Up to twenty labeled 35mm slides of recent work
- Support materials such as catalogs, reviews, articles, etc.

Mail to:

Public Art Director
Port of San Diego
P.O. Box 120488
San Diego, CA 92112-0488

Community-initiated Public Art applications due August 15

Contact the Port's Public Art Department or check the Public Art section of the Port's web site for further instructions and forms.

Editor: Allan Tait

FOR ADDITIONAL PUBLIC ART INFORMATION, CALL (619) 686-7246, E-mail publicart@portofsandiego.org, OR VISIT THE PUBLIC ART SECTION OF THE PORT OF SAN DIEGO'S WEB SITE: www.portofsandiego.org.

Port of San Diego

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