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NEW ENGLAND FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS' FUND FOR THE ARTS AWARDS $113K TO SUPPORT PUBLIC ART IN GREATER BOSTON AREA

(BOSTON - August 27, 2007) Fund for the Arts, a public art funding program managed by New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA), has awarded over $113,000 to artists and organizations to support the planning and creation of public art works in Boston and surrounding areas. The Fund is a restricted endowment created in 1981 under the leadership of arts philanthropist Phil David Fine. It supports projects that pair artists and nonprofit community organizations to create public artworks that engage audiences and encourage community participation in the arts. For more information about Fund for the Arts, visit www.nefa.org/grantprog/fundforarts/index.html.

2007 FUND FOR THE ARTS GRANTEES

Neck Art Project, Peter's Park, South End
Artist: Gillies-Smith/Kilkelly/Cormier
Organization: Neck Art Project
Amount awarded: $30,000
The Neck Art Project received a Fund for the Arts grant of $30,000 towards the installation of a public art Land Wave, an innovative earthwork/artwork for Peters Park in Boston's South End. The abstract sculptural piece will evoke waves and water while marking the narrowest part of the historic neck. The artwork responds to its site and creates a buffer between park and street, and an attractive, playful addition to the local landscape.

Sustainable Design Project
Artist: TBD
Organization: Massachusetts College of Art + Design
Amount awarded: $14,600
The Massachusetts College of Art + Design has received a Fund for the Arts planning grant of $14,600 for a public art project featuring sustainable design along Huntington Avenue. The grant will support planning for a visiting artist to design and construct art/landscape installations in conjunction with the Sustainable Architecture course at the Massachusetts College of Art + Design. The end product of the planning grant will be the selection of an artist and site for the sustainable public art installation.

Three Story Mural, Lynn, MA
Artist: TBD
Organization: LynnArts, Inc.
Amount awarded: $10,000
LynnArts, Inc. has been awarded a Fund for the Arts planning grant of $10,000 for the planning and development phase of a three story mural in Lynn's downtown Business & Arts District. The planning phase will include: an artist selection, community meetings and engagement of youth in the project. The mural project is part of a Lynn arts block redesign by LynnArts.

Spectacle Island Shelter/Seating project
Artist: David Phillips & Charles Jones
Organization: Island Alliance
Amount awarded: $15,000
The Island Alliance and artist group David Phillips and Charles Jones have been awarded a Fund for the Arts planning grant in the amount of $15,000 for the Spectacle Island Shelter/Seating project. The grant will be used to support the design development and permitting phase prior to the shelter construction in the coming year.

Brighton Public Library Integrated Public Art
Artist: TBD
Organization: City of Boston, Mayor's Office of Arts, Tourism & Special Events
Amount awarded: $9,500
The Mayor's Office of Arts, Tourism & Special Events (MOATSE) has been awarded a Fund for the Arts planning grant in the amount of $9,500 for artist engagement in the development stages of the Brighton Library branch renovation. This planning grant will allow for an artist selection and design development with community involvement throughout the public art process. The completed project will stand as a significant enhancement to the Brighton neighborhood and all its citizens who encounter the artwork.

Mozart Park Mural Project, Jamaica Plain
Artist: Roberto Chao
Organization: Hyde Square Task Force
Amount awarded: $25,000
The Hyde Square Task Force received a Fund for the Arts grant of $25,000 for a mural along a 100-yard brick wall in Mozart Park. Working under the supervision of muralist Roberto Chao, the mural will be designed and painted by local youth, who in recent years have responded to violence in the neighborhood by creating art that transforms public areas where violence occurs. The theme of the mural will reflect the cultural diversity of the Hyde/Jackson community and the role of immigrants in Boston.

Speaking Out, Community Art at Work, Brockton, MA
Artist: Bart Uchida
Organization: Brockton Housing Authority
Amount awarded: $9,071 (Planning Grant)
The Brockton Housing Authority and artist Bart Uchida received a Fund for the Arts grant of $9,071 for the planning and development of permanent outdoor and indoor works to augment the housing and landscape improvements at the Crescent Court Housing Development in Brockton. Through community workshops the planning process determined possible site locations for public art works, garnered historical information about the Crescent Court Neighborhood, and documented an account of the community through film and video.

New England Foundation for the Arts
NEFA creatively supports the movement of people, ideas, and resources in the arts within New England and beyond, makes vital connections between artists and audiences, and builds the strength, knowledge, and leadership of the region's creative sector. NEFA is a nonprofit organization that operates with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New England state arts agencies, and from corporations, foundations, and individuals. For more information please visit www.nefa.org.

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