



COUNTY OF YOLO

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Public Art Selected for Renovated Davis Branch Library

(Woodland, CA) – Recently, the Yolo County Board of Supervisors approved public art installations for the newly remodeled Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library, scheduled to re-open later this fall. Thanks to the successful passage of Measure P, overwhelmingly supported by Davis voters in 2007, which increased the parcel tax that funds expanded library services, programs and facilities in Davis, the Davis branch library is receiving a much needed facelift, which includes public art installations.

“Funding for this program is consistent with long standing Board-approved policy on Arts in Public Places,” said Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Helen M. Thomson. “The selection process was comprehensive, thanks to the assistance of our arts consultant, YoloArts, and included collaborations between those who served on the original Davis Library Public Art Plan committee in 1991, along with community members and staff. I am very pleased with the selection of colorful, vibrant and cheerful art chosen from local Yolo County artists.”

The panel reviewed and rated proposals based on artists’ ability to meet the theme, artistic merit, integration, original work and professionalism. The following artwork was selected:

- **Fire Rainbow sculpture by Mark Abildgaard of Woodland.** This is a three dimensional suspended glass sculpture inspired by a rare natural phenomenon known as a Fire Rainbow that occurs when ice crystals in a cirrus cloud are struck by the sun and create colors throughout the cloud’s shape. The concept behind the sculpture is to portray the diversity of Davis as an intersection of cultures which are brought together in the library.
- **Putah Creek vignette by Donna Billick and Wesley Horn of Davis.** This is a mixed media mural is a reflection of the landscape including agricultural row crops, orchards, foothills and spacious sky showcasing regional birds, trees and the Putah Creek waterway that unites these elements in the Davis region. The use of color and dimensional texture will build a landmark portrait of the Davis area in the children’s area while engaging children to dream, visualize and explore.
- **“Resident Manuscript,” by Joseph Bellacera of West Sacramento.** “Resident Manuscript” will create a soft visual texture for the reading garden windows with illusions of manuscripts, text and illustrations representing local nature and history painted on both side of a series of steel screen suspended outside of the reading garden windows.

Additionally, a private gift of a memorial bench has been donated for the exterior of the library. These were reviewed by the art panel as well and found worthy of their proposed locations. These new installations of art and gifts compliment the existing art collection. The library’s public art plan includes an ongoing policy for future phases including gifts of public art.

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