

COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

(through June 2019)



Manitou Springs is widely perceived as a place for artists and the arts. To nurture and sustain both artists and the arts, a proposal to create the Manitou Springs Arts Commission was presented to, and accepted by, the Manitou Springs City Council in 2004. After gaining 501c3 non-profit status, it spun off from being a government agency and became the Manitou Springs Arts Council (MSAC) in 2006.

Soon after the MSAC was established, it worked with City Council to create a "Process for Selecting and Displaying Public Art." In 2007, under the MSAC was granted the authority, after review by City Council, to select and display all public art in Manitou Springs.

Among the Manitou Springs Art Council's many accomplishments are these:

- Administer and curate the "Art on the Avenue" project, under which MSAC has brought 30 sculptures to Manitou Springs. Five are owned outright by MSAC and 25 are on loan from artists who receive a stipend for allowing them to be displayed.
- Supported and helped sponsor District 14's ongoing art project which enlivens downtown via 60 colorful banners created by our public school students for the city's lampposts
- Support a variety of Concrete Couch's projects whereby teens and adults use their creative and artistic talents on public art projects including unique mosaic benches at Cheyenne Spring Park, mandalas in Soda Springs Park, artistic public restrooms in Soda Springs Park, stone and tile benches along CreekWalk Trail, lettering in the sidewalk at Soda Springs Park, the annual Lantern Parade, and others
- Collaborated with the Manitou Springs Public Library to create a photo-spread calendar to benefit the library
- Collaborated and supported the Manitou Historical Society on the "Hebe" project (unique artistic sculptures of "Hebe," the goddess atop the Manitou Springs' clock tower) to raise funds for The Heritage Center in Manitou Springs
- Over three years, partnered with Coutura Design Inspirations and the Manitou Springs office of Edward Jones to produce "Colors of Change", shows of original art by members of the MSAC
- Collaborated with organizers of Art Walk to feature sidewalk chalk art created by students from the Pikes Peak Region
- Helped support and sponsor Sean O'Meallies' "The Chair Project" with staff at the Manitou Art Center
- Collaborated with the Manitou Art Center on "Military Family Fun Day"
- Promoted art-related events in Manitou Springs, including
 - "Parade of Lofts," a fundraiser to match challenge grants from the Pikes Peak Community Foundation
 - presentation on Christo and Jeanne-Claude's proposed installation "Over the River" by a member of the artists' team
 - "Imagine Streetscape", in which artists imagined ways to fill voids in the downtown streetscape
- Collaborated with the Mineral Springs Foundation on a "way-finders" logo to direct people to Manitou's mineral springs

- Sponsor the Little London Winds summer music concert series as well as the annual Manitou Chamber Music Festival which takes place in July-August each year
- Helped sponsor and provide volunteer support to ManiFest
- Partnered with the Manitou Art Center, other organizations, the Chamber of Commerce and City Officials to obtain a "Creative District" designation from Colorado Creative Industries (a Colorado state agency), and serving as the fiscal organization for the "Creative District"
- Used a billboard, awarded to MSAC by LAMAR Outdoor Advertising, to promote Manitou Springs as an arts destination
- Hosted community potluck dinner with guest speaker Nancy Kramer (Steamboat Springs Arts Council) to share ideas for the "arts" in Manitou Springs
- Coordinated two Wine and Wearables Galas, encouraging attendees to "wear art on your sleeve" and to "discover 13 new aspects of yourself," , organized a Bar(r) trail fundraiser to raise funds to purchase the sculpture "Man in the Z Moon"
- Coordinated with Park and Recreation Advisory Board on the Soda Springs Master Plan
- Co-sponsor Poetry and Pottery, a weekly summer workshop, in coordination with Poetry Heals
- Co-hosted with the Manitou Springs Heritage Center, the Beer and Wine Garden at Commonwheel Artists' Art Festival to share information about the mission and support local music talent featured on nearby stage
- Coordinated with Smokebrush Foundation to develop the Canon Avenue "tree art" installation
- Helped sponsor and support Theatreworks' production of Shakespeare's A Comedy of Errors, offered free of charge in Manitou Springs Memorial Park
- Coordinated with the Urban Renewal Authority to develop plans for a large gateway sculpture in the pocket park at east entrance to Manitou Springs
- Raised funds via an "Adopt-A-Pedestal" sponsorship program; a plaque exhibiting MSAC's sponsors under this program is in Shoshone Plaza
- Helped draft language for the section of the Manitou Springs Vision Plan dealing with the arts
- Collaborated with Manitou Springs' bars and restaurants to raise funds to promote both MSAC and those establishments
- Received in-kind support from artists Christo and Jean-Claude, Murphy Constructors, Fast Frame, LAMAR, Don's Body Shop, PARAB, and Bristol Brewing, and obtained grants from the Bank at Broadmoor, STEP, the Pikes Peak Community Foundation, Two Sisters' Inn, the Manitou Garden Club, and USAA Foundation.
- Donated funds to Commonwheel Artists' Co-op to assist with the Annual Labor Day Weekend Art Festival, to the City of Manitou Springs to help defray the cost of the Vision Plan Brochure, to the Manitou Art Center to restore the large school chair outside the MAC, and to other arts organizations