



City of
SANTA CLARITA

Arts Commission
2025 Public Art Report



TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....	2
PUBLIC ART PROJECTS	
COMPLETED IN 2024	
2024 TEMPORARY PUBLIC ART	3
2024 SIDEWALK POETRY PROJECT	4
2023 BIKE RACK PROJECT	5
2024 TEMPORARY PUBLIC ART TRAILHEAD PROJECTS.....	6
PUBLIC ART PROJECTS	
IN PROGRESS	
CENTRAL PARK (CIVIC ART)	7
THE RINK SPORTS PAVILION (CIVIC ART)	8
OLD ORCHARD PARK (CIVIC ART)	9
DAVID MARCH PARK (CIVIC ART).....	10
PUBLIC ART PROJECTS	
FOR CONSIDERATION	
2025 SIDEWALK POETRY PROJECT	11
VIA PRINCESSA PARK.....	11
TEMPORARY PUBLIC ART	
TRAILHEAD PROJECT	12
SIGNATURE PROJECT	12
CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF THE ARTS PARTNERSHIP	12
CONSERVATION AND MAINTENANCE.....	13
PUBLIC ART INVENTORY.....	14-17
CONCLUSION	18

INTRODUCTION

The City of Santa Clarita (City) has significantly enriched its cultural landscape through the Arts Commission's thoughtful guidance on public, civic, and temporary art projects since the implementation of the Arts Master Plan in 2016. The City's vibrant local urban environment in 2024 is a testament to the ongoing success of this program.

The Arts Commission is excited to present the launch of the Santa Clarita Arts app, an innovative augmented reality (AR) app that presents art in a revolutionizing fashion across digital platforms. The Santa Clarita Arts app consists of ten digital 3D art installations created by artist Drake Arnold which hold a connection to the historical elements of Old Town Newhall. The app itself acts as a guide through Old Town Newhall, pinpointing each piece on a map. The “Art Radar” allows users to have an interactive experience with each unique art piece.

The Arts Commission is happy with the Temporary Public Art California Institute of the Arts Partnership. Professor Harry Gamboa Jr. and his students created his series titled “Dawn/Eclipse of a New Era,” which captures a diverse group of performers utilizing the space of Old Town Newhall.

Public art enhances our local community by making public spaces more inviting, promoting discussion of the arts and reflecting the history and character of Santa Clarita. The Arts Commission is proud to introduce this report of completed and ongoing public art pieces that continue to enliven the community.



Photo by Harry Gamboa Jr.

PUBLIC ART PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2024

Temporary Public Art: California Institute of the Arts Partnership

The California Institute of the Arts Partnership is a collaboration between California Institute of the Arts' Professor Harry Gamboa Jr and his students. The series "Dawn/Eclipse of A New Era," was directed and photographed performances capturing the performative nature of human presence against the urban backdrop of Old Town Newhall. His images delve into the illusion of mass identity, blending the tangible with the digital to create a resonant mythic narrative. In "Dawn/Eclipse of A New Era," the essence of "noir" in Southern California emerges, casting light on the gray zones that define our contemporary landscape.

This digital photography project involves a diverse group of performers who were directed by Gamboa to pose in different locations in Newhall. These conceptual images challenge the built environment and redefines spatial relationships between object and subject, evoking an aura of 21st century "cool" and "calm," while hinting at perpetual momentum. The performers include current students and alumni from California Institute of the Arts, as well as collaborators from Gamboa's previous projects.

Harry Gamboa Jr. is a renowned artist and educator, known for his influential role as a co-founder of the Los Angeles-based performance group Asco and as the founder/director of the international performance troupe Virtual Vérité. Currently, he is a faculty member in the Photo/Media Program at California Institute of the Arts. The final photographs were exhibited from Wednesday, June 4 to Monday, August 5, at The MAIN (24266 Main Street).



Sidewalk Poetry

Theme: Poetry of Place

Locations: Various

The Sidewalk Poetry Project includes original poems stamped into sidewalks throughout the City. The poems were stamped in the spring of 2024 as part of the Public Works Department's sidewalk rehabilitation program.

The Park Down the Road

The purplest of purple skies
outlined the only mountains
I'd ever known, and the twinkle
of the stars reminded me that
I ought to be walking home.
~ Katherine Denzin

Childhood

childhood secrets, felt warm
neighbors with freshly cut grass
playful dancing in friends' eyes
air hummed and bounced
with childhood innocence
~ Vivianne Guzman

Cloud Spotting

Now and then,
When I look up at the sky,
I see an ice cream cone,
A crocodile or a kitten's paw -
Or my mother calling me home.
~ Wendy Fontaine

Molly's Puddles

Bright pink boots, matching coat
Rain pours down, makes a moat
Find a puddle.
StompSplashTwirl!
Wet and giggly. Happy girl!
~ Forbes Black

Climbing Trees

Cradle me, my mother nature.
Carry me on your shoulders,
lean towards sunlight, let me
dwell on sweet nectar and birds.
~ Kara Monson

Twilight Coaster in Santa Clarita

In a quiet town,
Roller coaster carves the night,
Gentle laughter blooms.
~ Joshua Rundus

A Note From Your Inner Child

I'm always with you whether you
can see me or not; I'm here.
Remember to take walks with me
when you need to breathe
fresh air the most. - Little You
~ Deborah Kavis

Lucky Penny

The sloping valleys are like
giants' limbs under the cover
of tawny sheets. The sun
is a lucky penny, all copper,
all smooth, all just for me.
~ Scarlett Dougherty

Untitled (Haiku)

chasing rainbows—
the child asks
for a bigger net
~ Edward Huddleston

Haiku

drifting
with the dandelion seeds
childhood dreams
~ Garry Gay



2023 Public Art: Trek Bike Rack

The Bike Rack Public Art project (Bike Rack) was identified as a public art project in the Arts Commission 2021 Public Art Report and is located at the Trek Bike Park of Santa Clarita. This public art project was funded through a partnership with the City of Santa Clarita's Environmental Services Division. Due to the specific funding source, the Bike Rack incorporated at least 60 percent of recycled materials into the design and fabrication while accommodating a minimum of eight bikes.



The selected art piece, Mike Burke's "Trek Bike Rack," serves as a beacon for the Bike Park of Santa Clarita. The installation features large BMX bars and seat, as well as a bike rack to safely store bicycles. The art piece also contains an ADA height seat and was inspired by the early BMX racing that started in southern California. The number 23 represents the year the piece was created but also as a 50-year tribute to the first established BMX racing series in 1973.



Temporary Public Art: Trailhead Projects

New sculptural public artworks are added to the temporary collection, which rotates out in three years. An Artist Selection Committee (Committee) is formed to guide the temporary art selection.

Trailhead Sculpture

Artist: Danette Landry

Title: Link of Humanity

Size: 9' x 30" x 30"

Material: Bronze

Location: Chuck Pontius Communter Trail



Trailhead Sculpture

Artist: Nicholas Kantarelis

Title: Daeon Fingers

Size: 108" x 50" x 24"

Medium: Aluminum, paint, silicone, steel

Future Location: Bouquet Creek Trail



Trailhead Sculpture

Artist: Adrian Litman

Title: Joyful Rhythms

Size: 96" x 48" x 48"

Medium: Painted Wood Blocks

Future Location: South Fork Trail

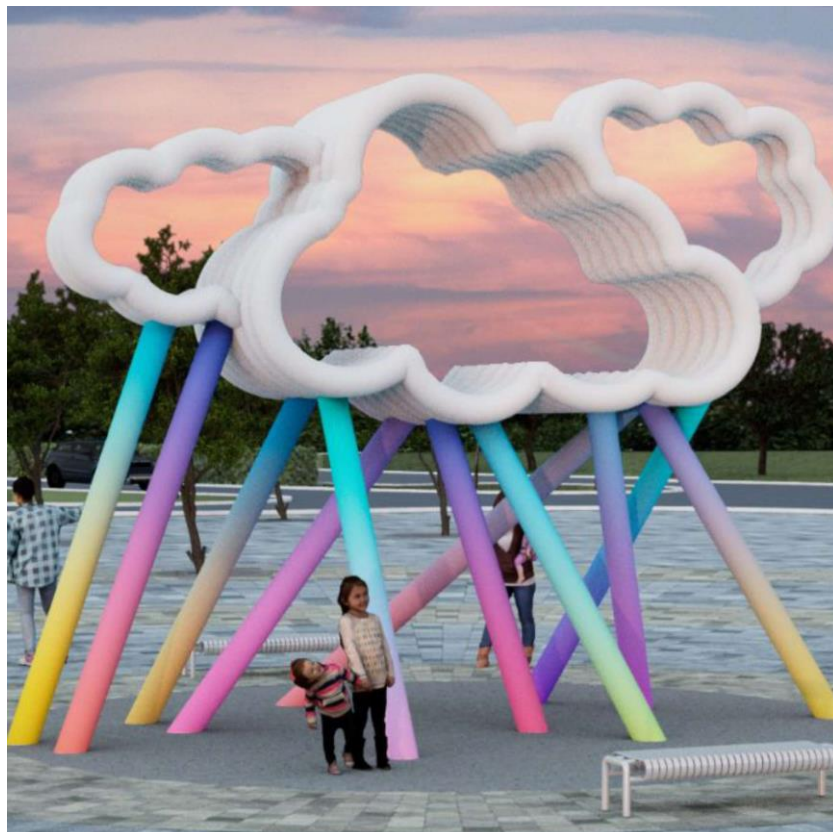


PUBLIC ART PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

Central Park

The City has allocated funds for a public art piece to be located at Central Park (Park) and accessible to the public. The design for the Park buildout focused primarily on the undeveloped southwestern portion of the Park. It includes the addition of four full-sized multipurpose fields, the installation of sport field lighting, landscaping and irrigation, various site furnishings, a restroom/concession building, upgrades to the adjacent dog park, and additional parking. It also included a lighted accessible walkway to the existing dog park from the expanded parking lot, as well as lighting for the dog park. This additional lighting will allow visitors to use the facility year-round until closing time at 10:00 p.m.

The selected artist, Sujin Lim, artwork “When Cloud Met A Cloud” is estimated to stand around 15 feet tall and 20 feet wide, consisting of three cloud shapes sitting on ten gradient-colored pipes representing raindrops. The piece visually illustrates the water cycle of evaporation, condensation, precipitation, and collection. The sculpture emulates the values of water and the meaning of the water agency for our Santa Clarita residents.



The Rink Sports Pavilion

The proposed Santa Clarita Roller Skating Rink (Rink) will be the first of its kind in Santa Clarita and will offer the community a new intergenerational outdoor recreation amenity. The project will be located at the Santa Clarita Sports Complex, adjacent to the gymnasium, and is anticipated to include a multi-use building with spectator seating, an audio booth with a sound system, dasher boards, security cameras, WIFI access point, LED lighting, and landscaping. This project supports the Building and Creating Community theme of the Santa Clarita 2025 plan.

The selected artist, Annette Coleman's proposal "Kaleidoscope Sound Hallway" is estimated to stand around 15 feet high and 200 feet wide, consisting of a wall mural, 40 finger drums, Ten mosaic circles, and five mosaic circles with the ability to rotate. The piece visually illustrates how individuals come together to form a colorful, multi-faceted community.



Old Orchard Park

Old Orchard Park was constructed in 1968 and many of the original improvements, including the irrigation system, play areas, and restrooms no longer meet current park standards. This project will continue off of the park design based on the Old Orchard Park Master Plan. The design will focus on re-orienting the parking lot, improving pedestrian access and safety, the replacement of the irrigation system, and enhancements to the overall character and appearance of the park from Lyons Avenue.

The selected artist Gail Christofferson's proposal "Dreams of the Golden Oak" artwork features colorful oak leaves made from glass mosaic with seating.

Dreams of the Golden Oak

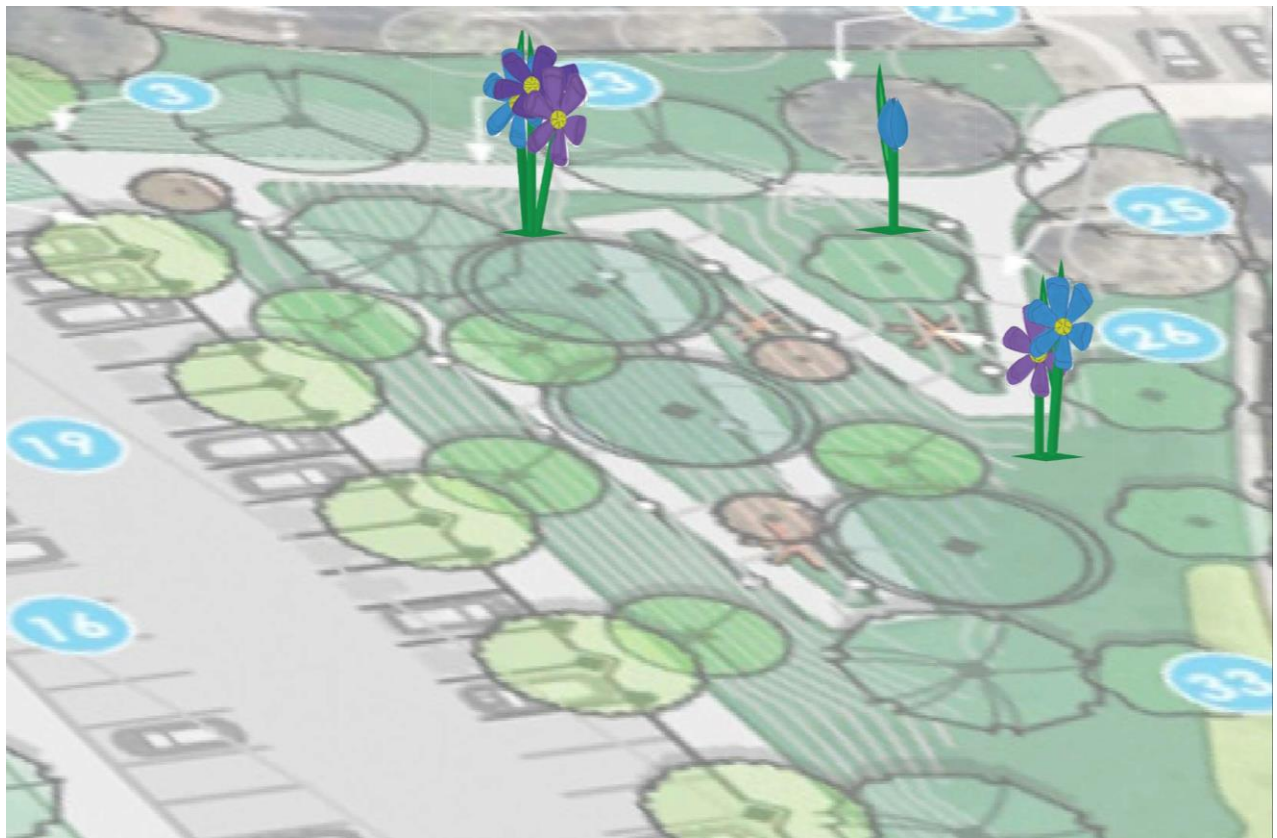


David March Park

David March Park was originally built in 2004 by the County of Los Angeles (County) and is located at 28310 Via Joyce Drive within the Saugus community. The park is approximately 13.2 acres and was transferred from the County to the City in June 2016.

Prior to transferring the property to the City, the County had a conceptual design for the park. Only a portion of the original plan was constructed. Under the direction of the City's strategic plan, Santa Clarita 2025, staff recently reevaluated the park design, and updated the initial conceptual plan into what is now being referred to as the David March Park Phase II Masterplan.

The selected artist Jessica Bell's artwork features three sculptures of flowers in different stages of bloom.



PUBLIC ART PROJECTS FOR CONSIDERATION

Sidewalk Poetry Project – 2025

The Sidewalk Poetry Project has been a collaboration with the Public Works Department for the last four fiscal years, to stamp poems into cement, coinciding with the annual Sidewalk Rehabilitation Program. The 2025 Sidewalk Poetry Project will coincide with the 2024-25 Sidewalk Rehabilitation Program.

Via Princessa Park

The City of Santa Clarita will start construction of Via Princessa Park, adding to our many parks throughout the Sant Clarita Valley. This project will provide numerous amenities like four full-sized multi-purpose fields with sports field lighting, welcoming players and spectators alike. In addition to conveniently located restrooms. A nature themed playground and natural play area will encourage children to use their imaginations to explore, grow and socialize with other young explorers. Shaded picnic areas provide opportunities to relax, enjoy a snack, lunch or just a moment to take a quick break from fun activities.



PUBLIC ART PROJECTS

TEMPORARY

Trailhead Project

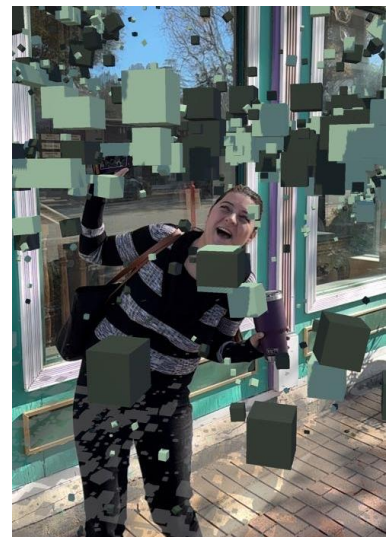
Temporary public art sculptures are located at six major thoroughfares along City trails. The locations of the sculptures are visible by traffic, publicly accessible, and regularly traveled trails. In 2024, two new temporary sculptures were chosen by the Arts Commission to replace the artwork at Bouquet Creek Trail and South Fork Trail. These sculptural pieces are titled, “Daeon Fingers” by Nicholas Kantarelis and “Joyful Rhythms” by Adrian Litman. They will be on display until 2027.

Signature Project

The Arts Commission worked with a local technology company, which was a resident company at the City’s Business Incubator, to develop the temporary public art app titled Santa Clarita Arts App. The app utilizes augmented reality (AR) technology to display virtual three-dimensional art in several key locations in Old Town Newhall. The AR program will run for three years. The first artist featured is Drake Arnold. Artist Victoria Vesna is creating a AR proposal for 2024.

California Institute of the Arts Partnership

The Arts Commission has developed a partnership with the California Institute of the Arts to utilize the Old Town Newhall Arts and Entertainment District as an area for students and faculty to create works that will safely draw residents and visitors to the area.



Conservation and Maintenance

In an effort to protect and conserve current and future public art installations in the City, the Arts and Events division oversees routine maintenance of all current public, temporary, and civic art pieces.

PREVIOUSLY MAINTAINED WORKS

Endangered Fossils

“Endangered Fossils” by Judith Modrak is a temporary public art sculpture installed in 2022 at West Creek Park. The sculpture represents an imagined archaeological excavation and the discovery of a new organism. Maintenance of a crack that was found in the sculpture was completed by City Staff mid November 2023 under the direction of the artist.



Iconic Gas Pump Bike Rack

The “Iconic Gas Pump Bike Rack” by Mike Burke is an art piece that serves as a functional bike rack in the style of a 1920s – 1950s gas pump. It was installed at the Canyon Country Community Center (C4) in 2021. The artist completed touch ups, tool restocking and location change in June 2024.

Inertia

“Inertia,” by Miguel A. Del Real is a public art mural installed in 2019 at the Santa Clarita Skate Park. The mural’s design includes intricate fluid linework that serves to reflect the distinctive culture of the skate park as a cool and creative place of expression for all. The artist completed paint touch ups on the mural in October 2021.

FUTURE CONSERVATION EFFORTS

Into the Blue

“Into the Blue” by Rachel Slick is a 2-sided mixed media mural (using paint, tile, and metal) installed in the Family Area of the Santa Clarita Aquatic Center in 2010. Staff has been working on scheduling and budget with the artist.

PUBLIC ART INVENTORY

PROJECT	ARTIST	LOCATION	YEAR
Bronco Buster (Replica)	Frederic Remington	City Hall	1895
Adventures in Fantasy	Kurt Conner	Newhall Library	1976
A City of Golden Dream	Miguel Angel Ramirez	City Hall	2000
Going on a Picnic & On the Move Bike Racks	Shuko Nielsen	City Hall	2000
Willie Johnston	Mark Henn	Veteran's Historical Plaza	2005
Heritage Bear	Scott Groller	Valencia Heritage Park	2005
Art Can Project-2006	Cecily Willis, Donna Weil, Anne Marie Durrach, Ray Pinjanthuk, Toni P. Haigh, Gerda Maxey	Old Town Newhall	2006
Walk of Western Stars	Victoria Sulski, Peter Bartczak	Old Town Newhall	2007
Bronze Fountain	Bronze West Imports	Aquatic Center	2007
California Vaqueros	Nicole Ponsler	Old Town Newhall	2007
Community in Action	Marc Kolodziejczyk, Nicole Armitage (Special Children's Art Foundation)	Newhall Community Center	2007
Transit Bear	Mike Burton	Transit Maintenance Facility	2007
History of Santa Clarita's Southern Hotel	Frank Rock	Old Town Newhall	2007
Birds of Valencia	Douwe Bloomberg	Bridgeport Marketplace	2008
Art Can Project-2008	Mary Kay Wilson, Dave Ekman, Gerda Maxey, Jim Ulrick, Frank Rock, Dave Ekman	Santa Clarita Sports Complex	2008
Together in Fun and Fitness	Marc Kolodziejczyk, Nicole Armitage (Special Children's Art Foundation)	Decommissioned	2008
Climbing Tree Bear	Corey Stein	Westfield Valencia Town Center	2009
Final Lap	Bob Hernandez	Aquatic Center	2010
Into the Blue	Rachel Slick	Aquatic Center	2010
Connecting through the Arts	Marc Kolodziejczyk, Nicole Armitage (Special Children's Art Foundation)	Soledad Canyon Road	2011
Friends	Madeline Wiener	Soledad Canyon Road	2011
The Ever-Changing Wall	ARTree	German Autohaus	2011
Crossroads	Idelle Okman Tyzbir, Dianne Foderaro	Magic Mountain Parkway	2012
Howdy Cleaners	Frank Rock	Newhall Library	2012

The Spirit of Santa Clarita	Dianne Foderaro	Decommissioned	2012
Western Tiger Swallowtail & Yerba Santa	LT Mustardseed	Central Park	2012
Archways	Mark Grieve and Ilana Spector	McBean Regional Transit Center	2013
Community Mosaic Mural	ARTree and the Community	South Fork Trail	2014
History Bear	Frank Rock	Newhall Library	2017
Cycling Bear	Frank Rock	Valencia Boulevard	2018
Inertia	Miguel A. Del Real	Skate Park	2019
Sidewalk Poetry 2019	Various	Various	2019
IMAGINE	Emma Anna	Valencia Library	2019
Sidewalk Poetry 2020	Various	Various	2020
California Scape	Forma Studios	Fair Oaks Park	2020
Communitree	C.J. Rench	Canyon Country Community Center	2021
Iconic Gas Pump Bike Rack	Mike Burke	Canyon Country Community Center	2021
Circle Song	Katy Krantz	Canyon Country Community Center	2021
Sidewalk Poetry 2021	Various	Various	2021
Bike Book	Greg Mueller	Old Town Newhall Library	2022
Tentacles	Julie Kitzes	Canyon Country Community Center	2022
Three Flowers	Amy Smith	Canyon Country Community Center	2022
Fish Underwater	Martin Kruck	Canyon Country Community Center	2022
Sunset Canyon	Martin Kruck	Canyon Country Community Center	2022
Clouds	Jesse Lindfeld	Canyon Country Community Center	2022
Onions	Deborah Schoen	Canyon Country Community Center	2022
Queen Clarita	Karina Alexi	Canyon Country Community Center	2022
H2O	Kirk Seese	Canyon Country Community Center	2022
Turtle	Joseph Scinto	Canyon Country Community Center	2022
Waves	Rose Freeland	Canyon Country Community Center	2022
Sidewalk Poetry 2022	Various	Various	2022
In the Wind	H & E Design	Canyon Country Community Center	2023
Amongst the Wildflowers	H & E Design	Canyon Country	2023

Canyon Sunrise	H & E Design	Community Center Canyon Country Community Center	2023
Union at the End of the Tunnel	StudioFolia	Vista Canyon Multit-Modal Center	2023
Sidewalk Poetry 2023	Various	Various	2023
Trek Bike Rack	Mike Burke	Trek Bike Park	2024
Sidewalk Poetry 2024	Various	Various	2024

TEMPORARY PUBLIC ART INVENTORY

PROJECT	ARTIST	LOCATION	YEAR
Growing Wings	Hilde DeBruyne	Decommissioned, South Fork Trailhead	2021-2023
Steel Breeze	Dev Harlan	Decommissioned, Plum Canyon Park	2021-2023
Reaching Man	Ron Whitacre	Decommissioned, Bouquet Creek Trailhead	2021-2023
Projecting West	California Institute of the Arts, John Hawk	Old Town Newhall	2022
Endangered Fossils	Judith Modrak	West Creek Park	2022-2025
Basics #56	Matthias Neumann	South Fork Trail	2022-2025
Living Quilt	California Institute of the Arts, John Hawk	Old Town Newhall	2023
Astral Projection Yellow	Ray Katz	Plum Canyon Park	2023-2026
Daeon Fingers	Nicholas Kantarelis	Bouquet Creek Trail	2024-2027
Joyful Rhythms	Adrian Litman	South Fork Trail	2024-2027
2024 AR Art	Drake Arnold	Various	2024
Dawn/Eclipse of New Era	California Institute of the Arts, Harry Gamboa Jr.	Old Town Newhall	2024
Link of Humanity	Danette Landry	Chuck Pontius Trail	2024- 2027

CONCLUSION

The City recognizes the valuable role that public art plays in enhancing the quality of life in the community and what art contributes to the well-being of its residents. In the development of the Arts Master Plan, it was clearly identified in the community survey that the City should focus on meeting residents' arts and entertainment needs. One of the key ways that the public identified to achieve this goal, was a desire for more public art projects to enliven the cityscape.

The City's Public Art, Civic Art, and Temporary Public Art programs feature new and innovative ways to enhance the experience of the public realm and offer opportunities to create meaningful civic discourse for residents and tourists. These programs give the community successful and engaging public spaces, where citizens and visitors alike encounter works of public art that surprise and delight. Public art has the power to transform a space into an active environment to inspire community engagement and celebrate the unique character of Santa Clarita.

