



*City of*  
**SANTA CLARITA**

**Arts Commission**  
**2026 Public Art Report**



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# INTRODUCTION

The City of Santa Clarita (City), acting under the direction of the City Council and the strategic guidance of the Arts Commission, continues to advance the vision articulated in the 2016 Arts Master Plan and the broader Santa Clarita 2025 strategic plan. Through a coordinated, cross-departmental approach—linking Arts and Events, Public Works, Parks, Recreation and Community Services, and Community Development—the City systematically integrates high-quality public art into civic buildings, parks, multi-modal transportation corridors, and other publicly accessible spaces. This integrated framework ensures that every commission aligns with the Arts Master Plan’s three core objectives: enhancing cultural vitality, strengthening support systems for artists and creative industries, and fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion across the community’s cultural landscape.

This year, the City’s public art programs delivered a slate of landmark projects that illustrate this alignment in practice. The seventh-year cycle of the Sidewalk Poetry Project gained ten original poems into newly rehabilitated sidewalks citywide, transforming routine infrastructure upgrades into moments of literary discovery and place-based storytelling. At Central Park, artist Sujin Lim installed *When Cloud Met a Cloud*, a 13-foot-tall stainless-steel sculpture whose gradient “raindrop” columns and cloud forms interpret the water cycle while serving as a visual gateway to the park’s newly expanded recreational amenities. Complementing these physical works, the Western Walk of Stars Augmented-Reality Experience introduced an interactive layer of digital art that invites residents and visitors to engage with Santa Clarita’s Western film heritage through mobile-device-based 3-D storytelling.

Together, these initiatives advanced the priorities beyond aesthetic enhancement and strengthens community pride. The 2025 Public Art report demonstrates the City’s continuing commitment to delivering fiscally responsible, artistically significant, and fostering creativity with projects that enrich daily life for Santa Clarita’s residents, workforce, and visitors.



# PUBLIC ART PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2025

## Public Art: 2025 Sidewalk Poetry

The Sidewalk Poetry Project includes original poems stamped into sidewalks throughout the City. The poems were stamped in the spring of 2025 as part of the Public Works Department's sidewalk rehabilitation program.

### Wildflower's Reply

Neat rows deny the wild here—  
Yet I bloom in sidewalk cracks,  
Defiant as a dandelion,  
Teaching concrete how to bend,  
Proving beauty breaks all rules  
- Margaret-Suzanne Bowman

That guy on the bike,  
So young and strong.  
Towing kids while singing songs.  
Years go by. Rides not so long.  
Hair now silver. Pedaling on.  
- Forbes Black

Today it may be that all I am  
to you is she who sees the trees  
below the hills, and the birds  
nesting quietly there,  
and loves them. That is enough  
- Kaelyn Peay

### Elsmere Canyon

Past the dried up creek  
Red yarn signifies a secret  
Past cowboy ghosts and pioneers  
A waterfall to dip your feet in  
- Kelli Callis

### The Golden Dream

Gold was found here under an oak  
I looked and saw none there  
But I have found gold here  
In the old friends; the sunsets  
In the smile of a stranger  
- Ian Andersen

### After Ginsberg

Se me ocurre  
que yo  
soy America  
- Sophia Le Fraga

### Manzanita me

In dry soil, I rise,  
Crimson branches hold the past  
A stubborn witness  
To seasons carved by my roots,  
My story shades the desert  
- Joshua Rundus

### Monarch

Erratic flight of  
Orange delight reminding me  
Of promised new life  
- Hope Horner

L.A. boomer, 1960. Palm trees,  
freeways. Sunshine through open  
windows and Santa Ana winds.  
Earthquakes rattle me, too;  
the eerie calm still haunting.  
- Cheryl Thatt-Burbank

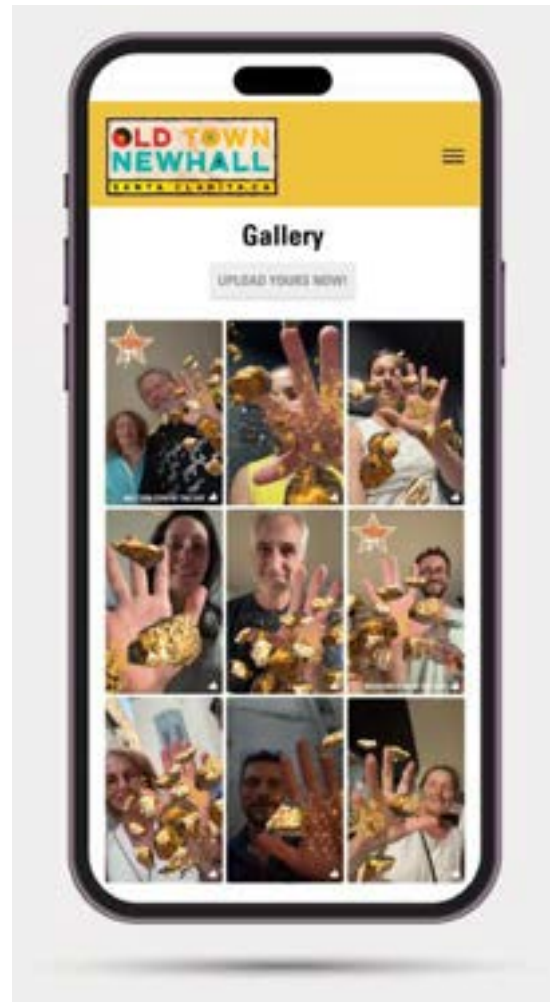
### Golden Dreams

Dusk falls on the Golden Oak  
who spreads its branches,  
holding the sunset above tides  
until the city falls asleep  
to coyote lullabies.  
- Jolie Lisenby

## Temporary Public Art: Signature Project

The Walk of Western Stars AR Experience is an augmented reality (AR) initiative proposed by Victoria Vesna and the UCLA Art|Sci collective to enhance visitor engagement along Santa Clarita's Western Walk of Stars. Building on the conceptual framework of Vesna's previous AR artwork Alien Star Dust, this project will allow users to interact with virtual stardust and 3D saddles via their mobile devices.

The experience uses the front camera to let users appear as Western stars surrounded by golden stardust, while the back camera displays interactive 3D saddles tied to each honoree's story. Key features include a custom app or web-based QR code (no app download required), an online gallery for sharing AR photos. The project aims to be immersive, accessible, and educational—celebrating Western film legends through cutting-edge digital storytelling.



## **Temporary Public Art: California Institute of the Arts Partnership**

Prayer (excerpt) by Stephanie Zaletel and Sam Kweskin was presented during the 4th Annual Business for Artists Conference at the Canyon Country Community Center on October 4, 2025. Prayer (excerpt) was a 20-minute interdisciplinary performance that explored themes of masculinity, tenderness, and collective hope. The work integrated choreography and photography to guide audiences through a meditative reflection on embodiment, care, and radical imagination.

Choreographed by Stephanie Zaletel (MFA Candidate, CalArts) and photographed by Sam Kweskin, the project featured a live physical performance complemented by a large-format photo installation. The auditory experience was shaped by the breath and movement of the performers, rather than traditional music or sound design.

A photography session with Kweskin and the performers was conducted prior to the performance. The resulting images captured a visionary extension of the performance's themes using light, color, and constructed space. A selection of prints remained on temporary display at the Community Center following the performance, with one print donated to the facility.

Performers and Collaborators Included: Joe Davis, CalArts Dance Faculty, Murphy Martin, Theater Alumni, Kensaku Shinohara, Dance Alumni, Sam Wentz, CalArts Dance Faculty, Stephanie Zaletel, MFA Candidate and Mentorship by Lars Jan, CalArts Faculty, School of Theater, Head of Directing.



## Civic Art: Central Park

The City has allocated funds for a public art piece to be located at Central Park and accessible to the public. The design for the parks buildout focused primarily on the undeveloped southwestern portion. 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.

The selected artist, Sujin Lim, artwork “When Cloud Met A Cloud” stands around 13 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. This artwork was installed January 21, 2025 and is now open the public.



## Civic Art: 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. This artwork was installed June 2, 2025.



# PUBLIC ART PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

## Civic Art: David March

David March Park was originally built in 2004 by the County of Los Angeles and is located 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. The sculptural pieces will be installed along the switchback walkway from the upper playground area to the lower ball field area.



# Civic Art: The Rink Sports Pavilion

The Santa Clarita Roller Skating Rink (Rink) will be the first of its kind in Santa Clarita and will offer the community a new intergenerational 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, 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.



## **Civic Art: Via Princessa Park**

The City of Santa Clarita will start construction of Via Princessa Park, adding to our many parks throughout the Santa 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.



## **Civic Art: Santa Clarita Sports Complex Buildout**

The original master plan for the George A. Carvalho Santa Clarita Sports Complex (Sports Complex) was developed in fiscal year 1998-1999. Since then, portions of the original plan have been constructed, including a gymnasium, The Centre event venue, an aquatic center, Skate Park, dog park, a bike park for BMX and mountain biking, and other recreation amenities.

Under the direction of the City of Santa Clarita's strategic plan, Santa Clarita 2025, staff has reevaluated and updated the master plan for the Sports Complex expansion.

# PUBLIC ART PROJECTS FOR CONSIDERATION

## Sidewalk Poetry Project – 2026

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 2026 Sidewalk Poetry Project will coincide with the 2025-26 Sidewalk Rehabilitation Program.

## Temporary Public Art Mural Art Project

The Mural Art Program supports the three core goals of Santa Clarita’s Arts Master Plan: enhancing cultural vitality, strengthening support systems, and promoting diversity and inclusion. This citywide initiative uses temporary murals to reduce graffiti, beautify neighborhoods, and celebrate local identity and history. In partnership with Community Development, mural sites are chosen in areas prone to vandalism, transforming blank walls into meaningful public art.

Each year, projects are selected based on budget and site needs. Murals remain for at least three years, with possible extensions based on condition and impact. Professional mural costs typically range from \$20 to \$35 per square foot, depending on design complexity and site factors.



# 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.

## Endangered Fossils

“Link of Humanity” by Danette Landry is a bronze temporary public art sculpture installed in 2024 at Chuck Pontius Commuter Trail. The sculpture was vandalized. City Arts and Graffiti staff worked together to clean and restore the sculpture to its original condition.



## Daeon Fingers

The “Daeon Fingers” by Nicholas Kantarelis is a temporary public art sculpture installed in 2024 at Bouquet Creek Trail. This artwork is made from Aluminum, paint, silicone, steel. The artwork detached from the base in high winds. City Staff worked with the artist who rebuilt the artwork entirely and reinstalled it.



## Community in Action

“Community in Action” by Marc Kolodziejczyk and Nicole Armitage located at the Newhall Community Center. The mural depicts the many activities that youth can experience and participate in at the Newhall Community Center, Arts Staff worked with the artist to restore sections of the mural that are in need of touch ups and cleaning.

# 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 Bartzak	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
Sidewalk Poetry 2025	Various	Various	2025
When Cloud Met a Cloud	Sujin Lim	Central Park	2025
Dreams of the Golden Oak	Gail Christofferson	Old Orchard Park	2025

## 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
Western Walk of Stars AR App	Victoria Vesna	Various	2025