FARMINGTON AREA ARTS COMMISSION
2024 ANNUAL REPORT

The Farmington Area Arts Commission (FAAC) supports efforts to ensure that arts and cultural heritage are integral components of our daily lives. The FAAC is committed to arts promotion and advocacy and serves as a conduit between local government and the arts community. Established in 1976, the Commission consists of individuals appointed by the Farmington and Farmington Hills City Councils.

2024/25 FAAC Commissioners

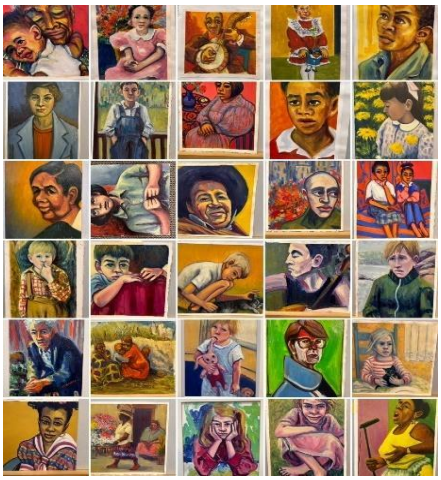
Lesa Ferencz (FH), *Chair*
Jeff Dutka (FH), *Vice Chair*
Lindsay Janoch (FH), *Secretary*
Claire Perko (F)
Celeste McDermott (FH)
Ted Hadfield (FH)
Don Fritz (FH)
Bree Shwartz (F Alternate)
Craig Nowak (FH Alternate)
Not pictured:
Cheryl Blau (F)
Sean Deason (FH)
Nora Mason (FH)
Cindy Carleton (FH)

Liaisons
Councilmember Jackie Boleware, City of Farmington Hills
Councilmember Johnna Balk, City of Farmington
Rachel Timlin, Cultural Arts Supervisor/Liaison, City of Farmington Hills

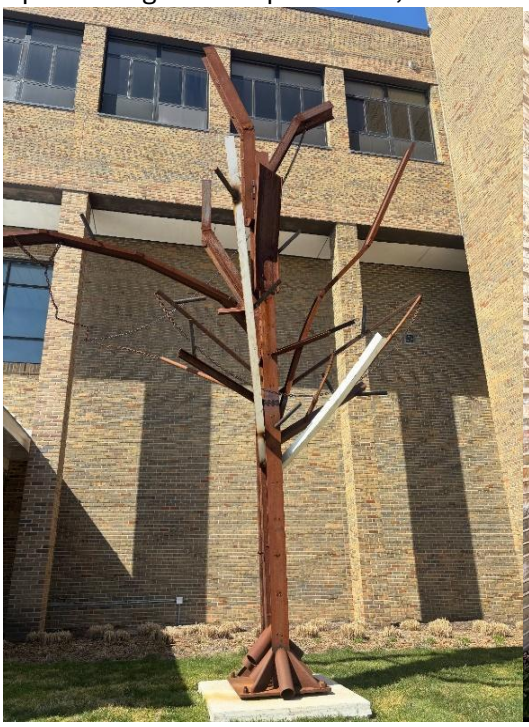
2024 Arts Commission Meetings
In 2024, the Arts Commission held eight (8) regular meetings, with one (1) canceled. No meetings were scheduled in July, August, or December.

2024 Arts Commission Goals, Objectives, and Initiatives

- *The Mary Brooks Art Collection (The preservation, documentation, and exhibition of a donation)* A collection of over 100 pieces by artist Mary Brooks was donated to The Hawk and has been properly packaged and stored by Commissioners. All pieces were photographed and documented with the goal of showcasing this work at The Hawk in a temporary exhibition or in digital format in the future.



- *The Hawk SCRAPTURE TREE:* The Arts Commission designed, built, and installed the 20 ft, 10-ton Scrapture Tree outside the Theatre entrance at The Hawk. This tree was cultivated using salvaged materials from modernizing and renovating the Harrison High School building into The Hawk and featured the support of the Harrison Alumni Club. Tree adornment and two (2) exquisite benches were installed in 2024 with an official dedication ceremony planned for June 2025. Commissioner Hadfield (pictured below) also facilitated the loan of the two (2) Ken Thompson sculptures nearby, complimenting the Scrapture Tree, and creating a small sculpture 'pocket park'.



- *City Hall Public Art Program, City of Farmington* – Over the 2023-2024 season, the Arts Commission guided the City of Farmington in the framework and launch of their new 2-year rotating City Call Public Art program. Commissioners assisted with the "Call for Art", selection process, and installation. The program was officially celebrated with an open house at Farmington City Hall in early 2024.

Additional contributions:

- 2024 Art Awards – in collaboration with the Cultural Arts Division
- Promoting the Farmington/Farmington Hills art galleries/public art installations
- 25th Anniversary FH Cultural Arts Musical Composition (ongoing)
- Volunteering during Cultural Arts Division events at The Hawk and in the community
    - Concerts/plays/comedy
    - Art Festivals: Art on the Grand
    - Summer kickoff
    - Rock Around the Hawk

<u>2025 Arts Commission Goals, Objectives, and Initiatives</u>

- Continue to offer the combined experience of our group while we advocate for, safeguard and advance the arts in both cities.

- Help to create and support a public/private partnership in Farmington Hills for the establishment, selection, installation, and maintenance of art in public spaces.

- Compliment the design of the Hawk Community Center by bringing color and texture to the building and surrounding grounds.

- Recognize the individuals, groups and businesses who make outstanding contributions to the local arts scene through the annual Arts Awards.

- Support the work of the Cultural Arts Department through staffing, volunteering, and promotions.