

# McCall Library Integrated Artwork Project

Joe Thurston/Site Specific

7.13.22



# McCall Library Integrated Artwork Project

## Proposal Outline:

- Artistic Intent
- Community Outreach

- Concept 1 (\$70,000)

- Artwork sites

- Materials and durability

- Budget

- Concept 2 (\$35,000)

- Artwork sites

- Materials and durability

- Budget

- Concept 3 (Children's Section \$35,000)

- Artwork site

- Materials and durability

- Budget

## Artistic Intent

“The McCall Public Library is the anchor for the heart, mind, and spirit of our community. Our mission is to provide boundless opportunities to educate, inspire, and connect patrons of all ages, backgrounds, and views.” -McCall Public Library Mission Statement

“To learn from our storied past, transform lives, and cultivate curiosity about an ever-changing future.” -McCall Public Library Vision Statement

I’m the son of a dedicated lifelong librarian. So, I feel inspired when I read the mission and vision statements above. Both statements are deeply familiar to me. In my role as a public artist, my work provides beauty, inspiration, and curiosity for all. My goal is to serve community members regardless of age, background, or point of view. Although I don’t see this work as necessarily pedagogical, (it is art!) I do see the need for art to foster expansive learning for viewers. Successful public art is not about the world we see, it’s about the world that we aspire to and create together.

The McCall Library is an important project. I’m honored to be invited and to propose a couple of design concepts. I’m thinking in terms of artistic innovation and resiliency – work that is original, inclusive, and meaningful, 50 or even 100 years from now. The McCall Public Library deserves thoughtful, beautiful, and sophisticated artwork in its collection.

The work deserves not only rigorous concepts, but also common materials used in innovative ways. The work needs to be original: to speak to McCall, the surrounding community, and the landscape with specificity. My initial thinking is to engage materials and processes with which I have extensive expertise. Yet, I will use them in new ways that become unique to this library and community.

I have carved stone pavers for the Children’s Hospital at Stanford University. I have used cast or etched glass for a public library in Milwaukie, OR., and for Redmond Senior & Community Center in Redmond, WA. I made large-scale, hand-carved, wood sculptures for housing in Portland, OR. and for Rhode Island’s Attorney General building in Providence, RI. Lastly, I used acoustic tile to soundproof and decorate a Children’s Storytime in Ridgefield, WA. These projects taught me the limitations and potential of these materials.

For the McCall Public Library, I will apply my knowledge to create beautiful and unique architecturally integrated artworks that are sited throughout the building.

# Community Outreach

## Process

Strategic outreach for the McCall Library Integrated Artwork will center on asking myself and others why, who, and what questions:

- ***Why** should there be artwork at this site?*
- ***Who** does this work represent? **Who** does it serve?*
- ***What** should the artwork look like? How can beauty, color, and dimension deepen the connection between this library and its visitors?*

These questions will most likely have many answers. In the past, I hosted events that elicited both written and illustrated suggestions and guidance from the public. For this project, my plan would be to collaborate with and take guidance from: city and library staff, project architects and designers, as well as community representatives, regarding imagery and siting of artworks.

For past library and public school projects, I engaged children and received valuable information to move forward with art and design. I sat in school gyms and worked with crayons or colored pencils. I created site-specific websites and garnered community input and suggestions. I am open to all of these methods for the McCall Library project. My level of engagement will be based on feedback from project stakeholders.

For my own design process, the next step would be a deeper dive into the history, present moment, and imagined future of the city and community that has lived, is living, and may arrive in McCall. I will engage with the community at large. These personal findings will be integrated into final community input.

# Concept 1



## Concept 1:

For the McCall Library Integrated Artwork Project, I propose the creation of five to six low-relief panels to be architecturally integrated into sites throughout the library. These panels will be fabricated from wood, glass, and stone. Dimensional carvings in these materials can represent a mountain range, underwater topography, forest treetops... anything that the community enjoys. Inset within these larger dimensional carvings are hand-carved “vignettes” that I will create as closeups or alternative views.

An example could be a large, 36 x 48” x ½” thickly-carved wood panel representing a section of the West Mountains. Inset in the bottom corner of this panel, there will be a hand-carved, colorful image of the West Range section from another perspective. These panels can range in size depending on the site. I’m currently thinking of them as 13 x 13”, 24 x 24”, 36 x 36”, or 36 x 48”. These panels can also range in shape—they don’t have to limit themselves to rectangles or squares as seen in my examples here. Panels can be created with rounded uneven edges or in natural shapes and inset into the walls or the stone fireplace facade. With assistance from the architect and design team, these artworks can easily be integrated into the building structure itself. This art will become an actual part of the building.

These large, carved panels will represent the history, current community, and optimistic future of McCall. Landmarks such as parks, waterways, and points of interest will be represented. Cultural and outdoor activities will be represented. This concept will visually blend mission and vision statements, important library services, broader community interests, and the natural landscape surrounding both library and city.

These won’t be literal maps. These won’t be literal images. These will be warm, beautiful, visual abstractions based on information gathered through outreach and the natural environment. Blending these patterns will create a memorable series: panels to represent the area and welcome patrons inside; to encourage staff pride and community appreciation for their services.

## Support panel: wood, glass, stone

I like the idea of creating support panels from wood, glass, and/or stone.

Panels will vary in size from 13 x 13" to 36 x 48" depending on the site.

These examples show several options that are dimensional (textured).

I could fabricate representations of mountain topography, Payette Lake depths, or Ponderosa State Park trees seen from above – perhaps with trees included.

Inset within these panels would be “vignettes”: different views of the landmarks that are also dimensional.



Wood



Glass



Stone



## “Vignette” inset

I considered how image and text find ways of working well together in both books and in visual art.

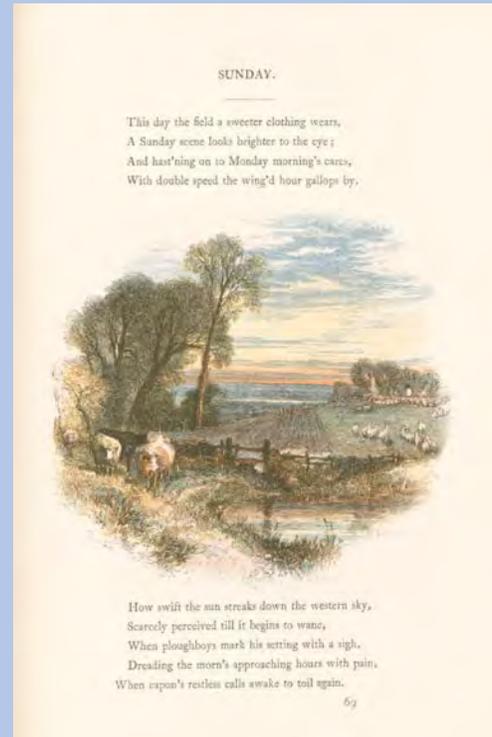
Don't get me started on the importance of NOT including obvious references to books or literature in artworks commissioned for a public library—I have strong feelings about that! Instead, I offer a potentially sophisticated approach:

The classic vignette perfectly relates image and text. I propose an **inset** (visual vignette) for each support panel.

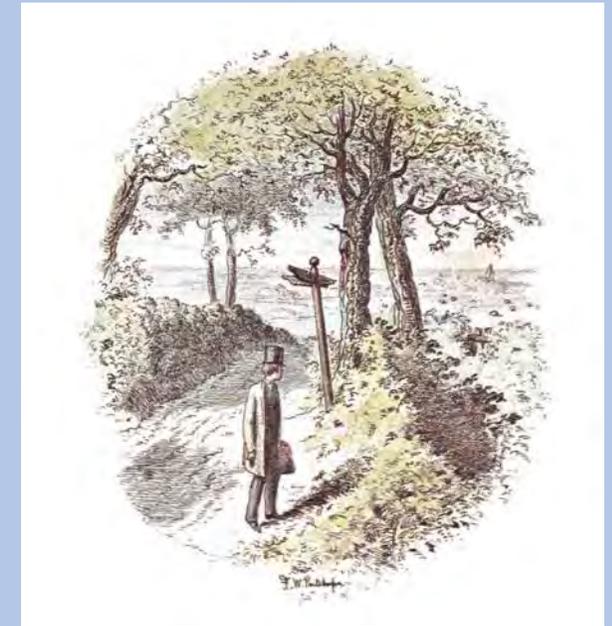
This contemporary “vignette” will include my original, hand-carved imagery based on outreach and the landscape.

It will showcase another view of each landmark represented by each support panel.

By themselves and set within panels, my vignettes will be fresh yet meaningful representations of the McCall community.



*Sabbath Bells Chimed by the Poets*, illustrated by Myles Birket Foster, edited by Joseph Cundall, for Bell and Daldy, London (1856)



*Pip leaves the village*, hand-colored lithograph for Charles Dickens' *Great Expectations*, first published as a black-and-white lithograph for the title page of the Robson & Kerslake edition (1885)

## Support panel with vignette inset

Example: wooden support panel with West Mountains (example only) carved into the surface

Five or six panels will be created in wood, glass, and stone. Carving into these materials can produce a dimensional mountain range, underwater lake, forest treetops...

anything that the community enjoys!



Hand-carved  
“vignette” inset  
within panel

(Image and  
colors are for  
example only.)

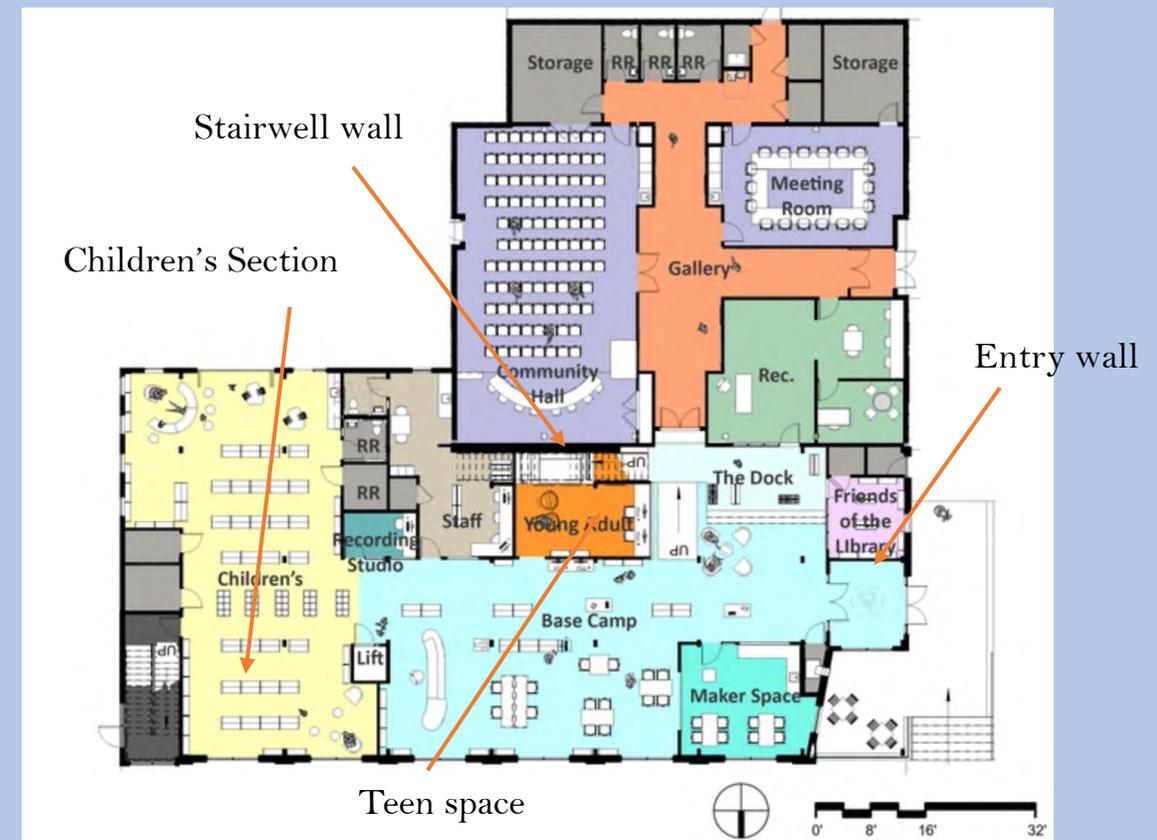
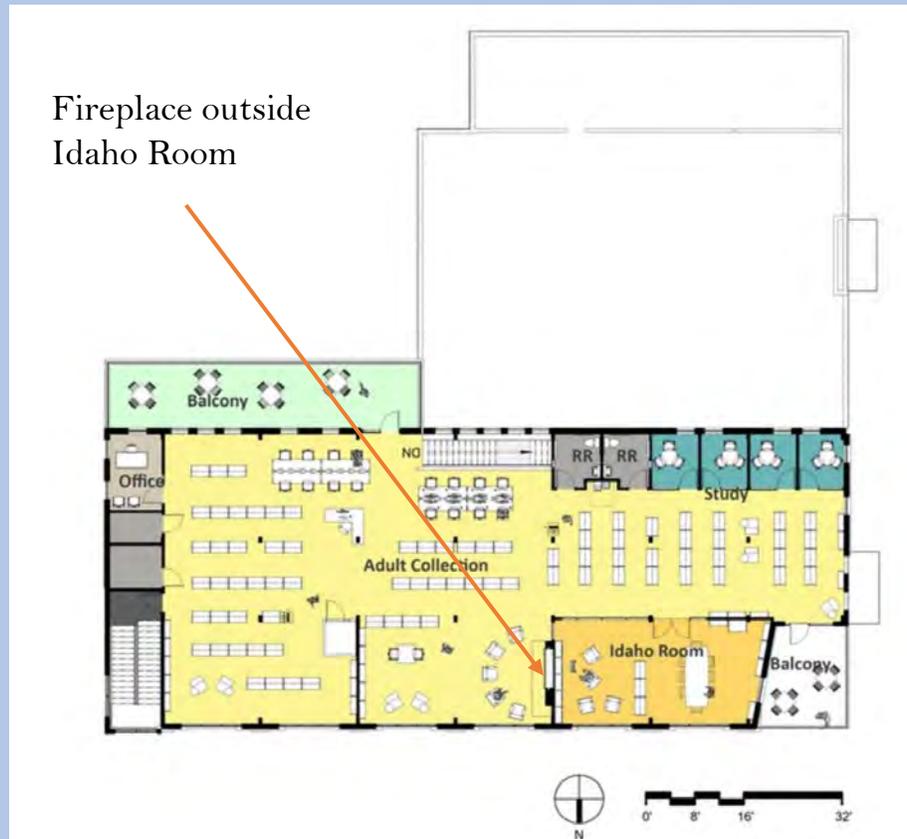
## Architecturally-integrated artwork

Artwork panels can be inset into gypsum or stone wall surface.

Panels can be inset into the wall as in this example



## Potential sites for concept 1



In my role as a public art master planner over the years – for municipalities, universities, and developers – I’ve learned to start the conversation early on with project architects, designers, and stakeholders as far as artwork siting is concerned. For concept one, I would work with the design team to identify various sites in the building best suited for panels. Then, we would determine how this artwork is integrated into the construction process. We would select sites that are visible yet initiate surprise and a variety of views for returning visitors.

## Potential site with artwork example



Image for example only. This artwork could be based on Base Camp (contemporary theme).

## Potential site with artwork example

Architecturally integrated. Permanently inset into stone fireplace facade



Image for example only. This artwork could be based on the Idaho Room (historical theme).

Architecturally integrated. Permanently inset into gypsum wall

## Potential site with artwork example



Image for example only. This artwork could be based on the entrance (welcoming theme).

## Materials / Installation / Maintenance

### Materials:

- Sustainable wood panel
- Acrylic pigment
- UVLS varnish
- Carved wood, glass, or stone support panels
- Aluminum cleat installation hardware

### Installation:

- Aluminum cleat system
- Engineer-approved wall anchors

### Maintenance (durability and longevity):

- Routine maintenance will require occasional cleaning of the artwork surface with mild soap and water-based cleaner.
- The artwork is very durable and should not need more than occasional cleaning. If the artwork does sustain damage (i.e., scratch or scuff), varnish is removable and material can be repainted and revarnished easily.

### Conservation and engineering services:

- These materials and processes have been approved by a conservation consultant in the past. I am able to provide the same service for this project.
- I work with Grummel Engineering in Portland, Oregon for my public art project commissions. They will sign-off and provide stamped drawings (if required) for the installation of this project at all selected sites.

# Budget for concept 1

Site Specific LLC  
43300 Carol Dr  
Nehalem, OR 97131 US  
(503)201-4559  
accounts@sitespecificwork.com  
www.sitespecificwork.com

## SITE SPECIFIC

### Estimate

#### ADDRESS

City of McCall  
216 East Park Street  
McCall, Idaho 83638  
(208) 634-7142

ESTIMATE # 1100

DATE 07/12/2022

EXPIRATION DATE 08/12/2022

#### CONTRACT NUMBER

McCall Library Artwork

EIN# 47-5096592

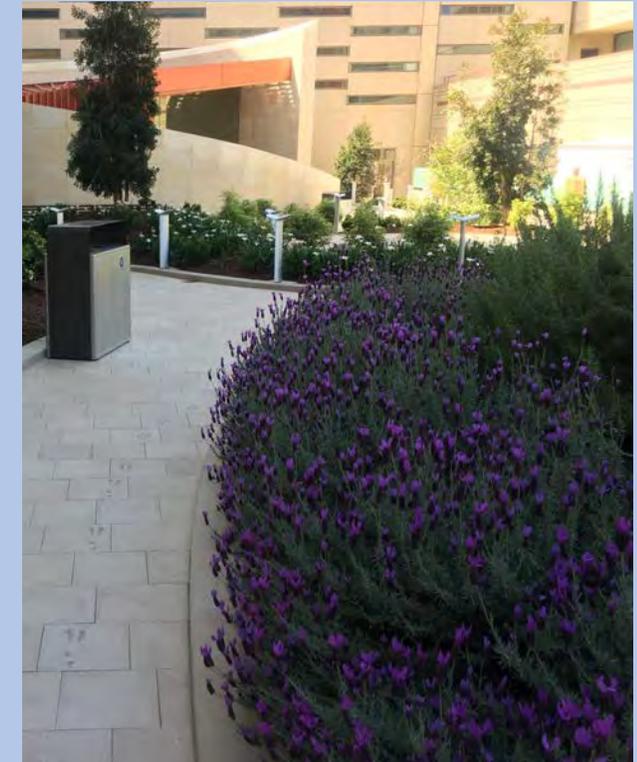
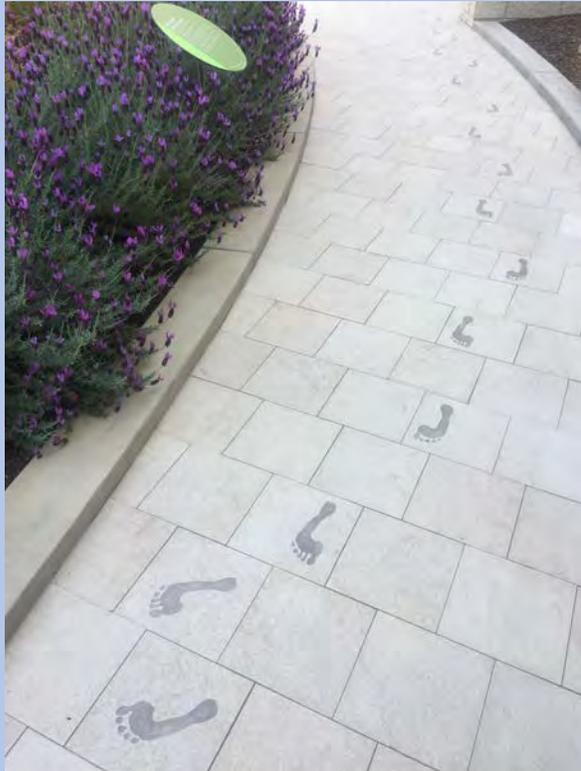
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DATE	ACTIVITY	QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
	<b>Project Management</b> Project management fee for duration of project (Oct 2022--2025)	1	3,000.00	3,000.00
	<b>Administration</b> Administration overhead fees for duration of project (Oct 2022--2025)	1	2,000.00	2,000.00
	<b>Research</b> Community outreach and research	1	3,000.00	3,000.00
	<b>Engineering</b> Engineering study and report for wall-mounted or wall inserted panels	1	2,200.00	2,200.00
	<b>Archivist/Preservationist</b> Conservator study and report for wall-mounted or wall inset panels	1	800.00	800.00
	<b>Fabrication/Materials</b> Hand carved wooden "vignette" panels	1	26,000.00	26,000.00
	<b>Fabrication/Materials</b> Carved stone, glass, and wood panels including aluminum cleat hanging system for wall integration or wall surface hanging	1	29,000.00	29,000.00
	<b>Installation</b> Final work installation 2 day estimated install time (includes travel and housing)	2	2,000.00	4,000.00

TOTAL

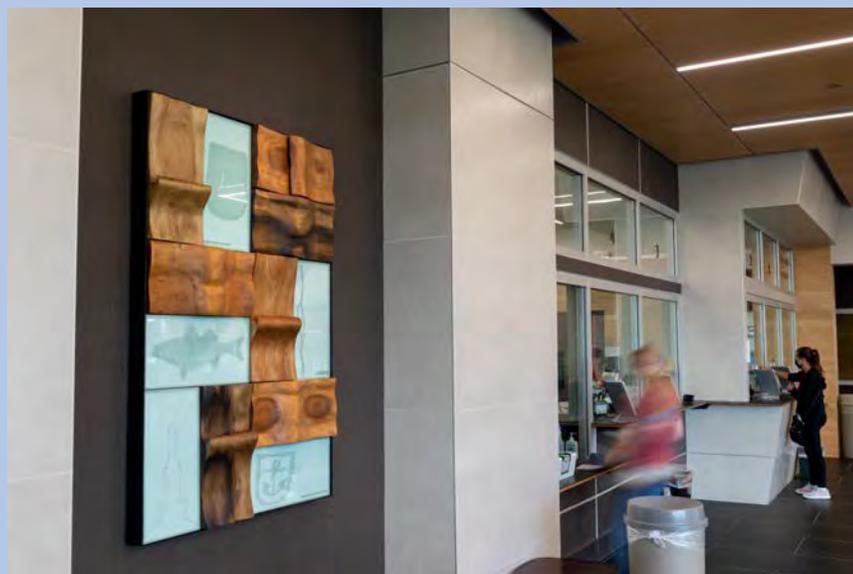
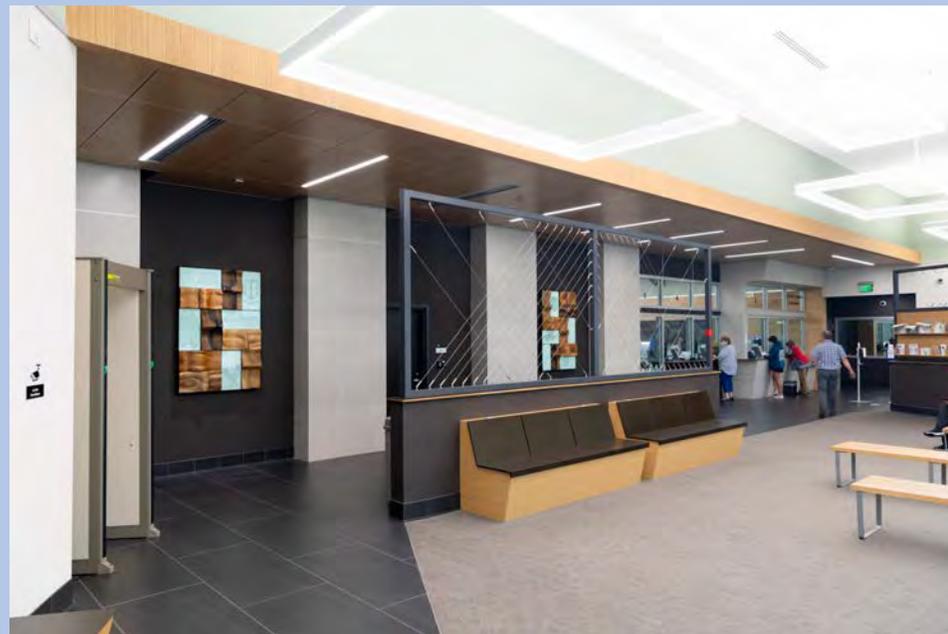
**\$70,000.00**

## Architecturally-integrated artwork



Carved stone pavers for the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford University

## Architecturally-integrated artwork



Carved wood and glass panels for the Office of the Attorney General in Providence, Rhode Island



## Architecturally-integrated artwork



Children's Storytime mural for  
Ledding Library in Milwaukie, Oregon

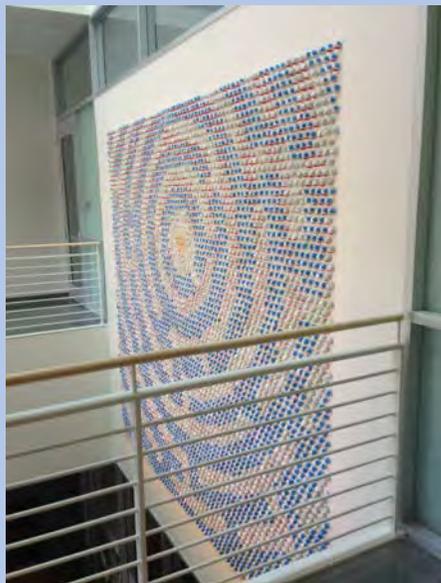


## Architecturally-integrated artwork



Carved wooden panel for Peloton Apartments in Portland, Oregon

# Architecturally-integrated artwork



Wall installation Stanford University



Wall installation Business School, University of Oregon



Wall installation West Linn Community Police Station,  
West Linn, Oregon



# Concept 2



## Concept 2:

For concept two, I propose to install a series of three hand-carved architecturally integrated panels from sustainable wood. Similar to concept one, colorful carved panels will represent the history, current community, and optimistic future of McCall. Landmarks and sites such as parks, waterways, and points of interest can be represented. Cultural and outdoor activities can be represented.

This approach will conceptually blend mission and vision statements, important library services, broader community interests, and the natural landscape surrounding both library and city.

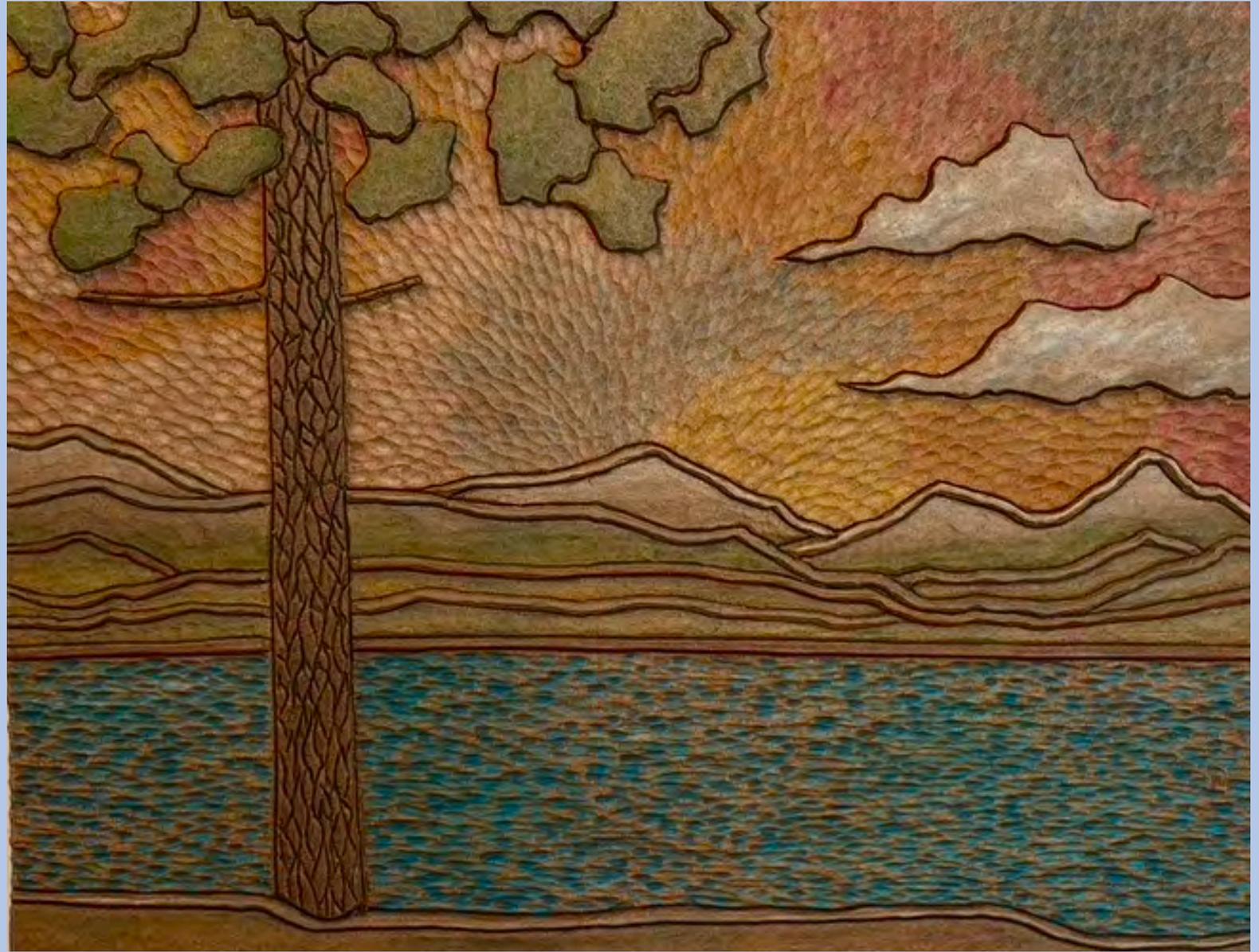
The process to produce this artwork is the same process that would produce visual vignettes for concept one. It is also something that I have perfected for 20 years. As a practicing studio artist (sculptor and painter), I have used stable, sustainable wood as a carving surface.

To begin, I select a concept for an image. I draw the image on the surface of wood material to create a low-relief carving. I paint the surface and varnish the artwork for longevity and archives.

My craftsmanship in this unique style is in museums and collections around the world.

I would be honored to create a legacy project of three artworks in this style for the McCall Library.

Potential site with artwork example

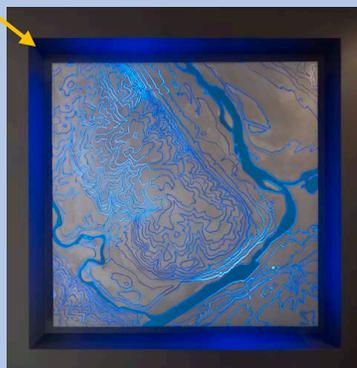


*Payette Lake Looking Towards McCall.* (Image is for example only.)

## Architecturally-integrated artwork

Artwork panels can be inset into gypsum or stone wall surface.

Panels can be inset into the wall as in this example



## Potential site with artwork example



Image for example only. This artwork could be based on Base Camp (contemporary theme).

## Potential site with artwork example

Architecturally integrated. Permanently inset into stone fireplace facade



Image for example only. This artwork could be based on the Idaho Room (historical theme).

Architecturally integrated. Permanently inset into gypsum wall

## Potential site with artwork example



Image for example only. This artwork could be based on the entrance (welcoming theme).

## Potential sites for concept 2



In my role as a public art master planner over the years – for municipalities, universities, and developers – I’ve learned to start the conversation early on with project architects, designers, and stakeholders as far as artwork siting is concerned. For concept two, I would work with the design team to identify various sites in the building best suited for panels. Then, we would determine how this artwork is integrated into the construction process. We would select sites that are visible yet initiate surprise and a variety of views for returning visitors.

## Materials / Installation / Maintenance

### Materials:

- Sustainable wood panel
- Acrylic pigment
- UVLS varnish
- Aluminum cleat installation hardware

### Installation:

- Aluminum cleat system
- Engineer-approved wall anchors

### Maintenance (durability and longevity):

- Routine maintenance will require occasional cleaning of the artwork surface with mild soap and water-based cleaner.
- The artwork is very durable and should not need more than occasional cleaning. If the artwork does sustain damage (i.e., scratch or scuff), varnish is removable and material can be repainted and revarnished easily.

### Conservation and engineering services:

- These materials and processes have been approved by a conservation consultant in the past. I am able to provide the same service for this project.
- I work with Grummel Engineering in Portland, Oregon for my public art project commissions. They will sign-off and provide stamped drawings (if required) for the installation of this project at all selected sites.

# Budget for concept 2

Site Specific LLC  
43300 Carol Dr  
Nehalem, OR 97131 US  
(503)201-4559  
accounts@sitespecificwork.com  
www.sitespecificwork.com

# SITE SPECIFIC

## Estimate

### ADDRESS

City of McCall  
216 East Park Street  
McCall, Idaho 83638  
(208) 634-7142

ESTIMATE # 1101

DATE 07/12/2022

### CONTRACT NUMBER

McCall Library Artwork

EIN# 47-5096592

-

DATE	ACTIVITY	QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
	<b>Project Management</b> Project management fee for duration of project (Oct 2022--2025)	1	2,000.00	2,000.00
	<b>Administration</b> Administration overhead fees for duration of project (Oct 2022--2025)	1	1,200.00	1,200.00
	<b>Research</b> Community outreach and research	1	3,000.00	3,000.00
	<b>Engineering</b> Engineering study and report for wall-mounted or inset panels	1	1,500.00	1,500.00
	<b>Archivist/Preservationist</b> Conservator study and report for wall-mounted or inset panels	1	300.00	300.00
	<b>Fabrication/Materials</b> Hand carved wooden panels including aluminum cleat hanging system for wall integration or wall-mounted surface hanging	1	25,000.00	25,000.00
	<b>Installation</b> Final work installation 1 day estimated install time (includes travel and housing)	1	2,000.00	2,000.00
TOTAL				<b>\$35,000.00</b>

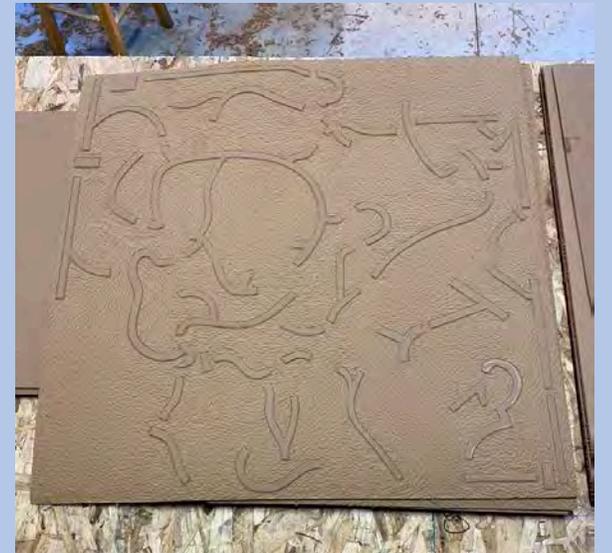
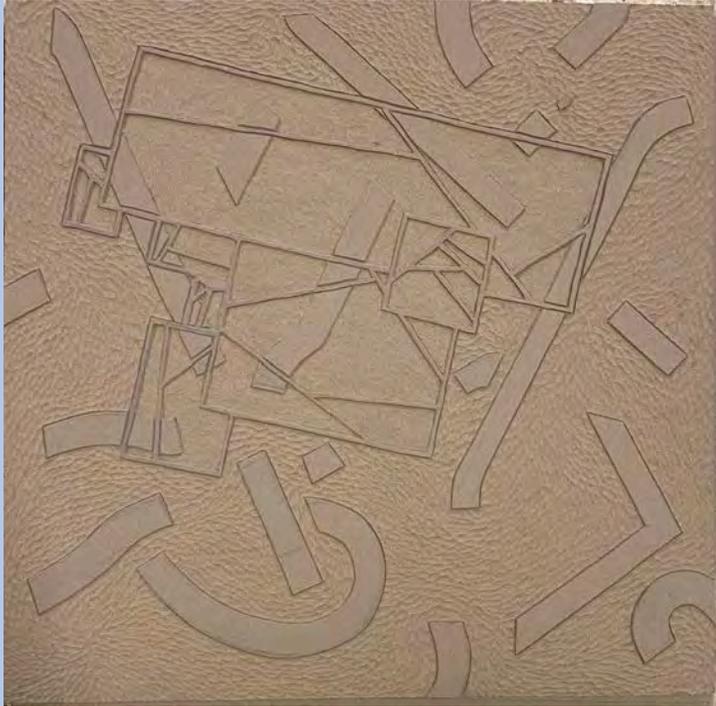
## Architecturally-integrated artwork



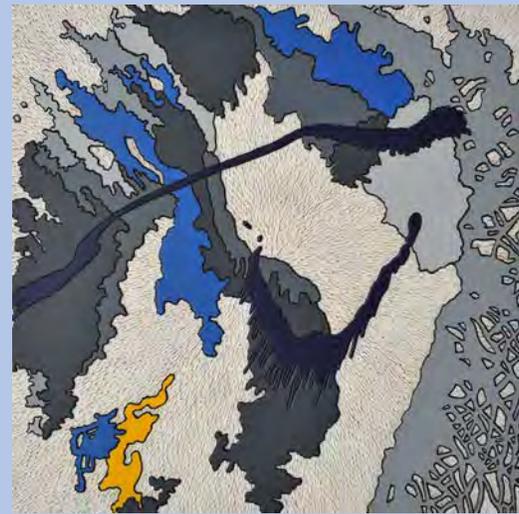
Children's mural for Ledding Library in Milwaukie, Oregon



## Wood panel examples (carved in-studio)



Wood panel examples (painted in-studio)



# Concept 3



### **Concept 3:**

For the Children's Section of the McCall Library Integrated Artwork Project, I propose to create tiles that are acoustic (soundproof). The tiles will become cutouts. Their shapes will reflect natural, cultural, and recreational elements – to be architecturally integrated and installed across the children's ceiling.

I anticipate six to eight separate designs. I would have multiples of each cutout, to total roughly 150 artworks for suspension.

These inspired cutouts will use dimension, color, and pattern to encourage a biophilic experience for children, families, and educators. Biophilic design recognizes that our well-being as humans depends on the quality of our relationships to the natural world.

As though interacting with nature, viewers of all ages will circulate around, walk nearby, or sit beneath the artwork overhead. Light will transform and play off of vibrant acoustic surfaces, hour by hour. As each day cycles through morning to evening, these same surfaces will act as gentle, gradual silhouettes.

The movement of light, time, and sound will connect visitors with the rhythm of circulation, literacy, and storytelling, as well as the academic calendar and all four seasons.

This permanent installation will enable motion that is continuous and contingent.

# Children's suspended artwork example



Acoustic cutouts range in colors.



Acoustic cutouts can be many shapes.

(Image is for example only.)

Architecturally integrated. Permanently installed into wooden ceiling

## Architecturally-integrated artwork

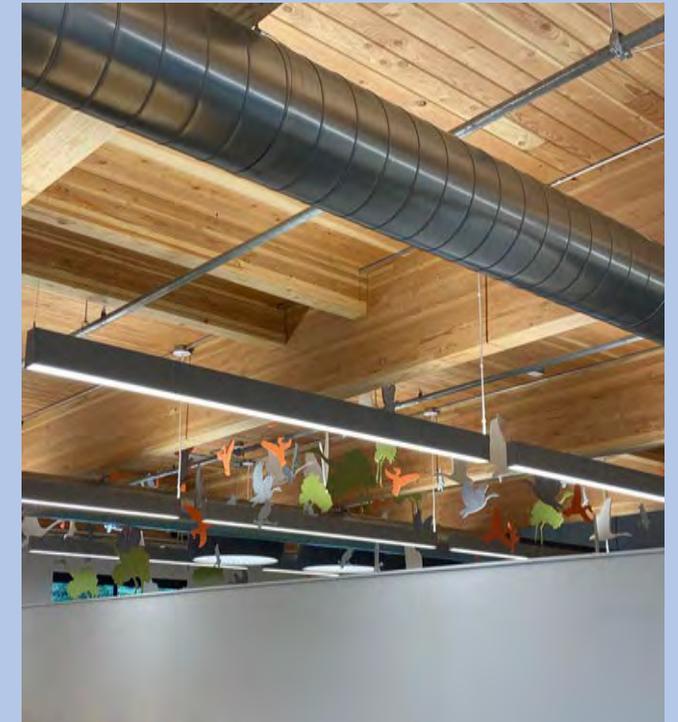


Children's acoustic cutouts for Ledding Library in Milwaukie, Oregon



Architecturally integrated. Permanently installed into wooden ceiling

## Architecturally-integrated artwork



Children's acoustic cutouts for Ridgefield Library in Ridgefield, Washington

## Potential sites for concept 3

Suspended and architecturally integrated above storytelling area



In my role as a public art master planner over the years – for municipalities, universities, and developers – I’ve learned to start the conversation early on with project architects, designers, and stakeholders as far as artwork siting is concerned. For concept three, I would work with the design team to identify the best area in the Children’s Section for artwork suspension. We could suspend the artwork over the storytelling area. The work would taper off in density as it moves over and above bookshelves.

## Materials / Installation / Maintenance

### Materials:

- Durable, long-lasting, chemical-free, recycled acoustic tile
- Monofilament
- Stainless steel mounting hooks

### Installation:

- Monofilament crimped and attached to acoustic tile cutouts
- Monofilament loops secured to stainless steel mounting hooks installed in the ceiling

### Maintenance (durability and longevity):

- Routine maintenance will require occasional dusting.
- Seasonal cleaning can include blowing off of the acoustic tile with an air canister.
- The artwork is very durable and should not need more than occasional cleaning. If the artwork does sustain damage, it is easily replaced.

### Conservation and engineering services:

- These materials and processes have been approved by a conservation consultant in the past. I am able to provide the same service for this project.
- I work with Grummel Engineering in Portland, Oregon for my public art project commissions. They will sign-off and provide stamped drawings (if required) for the installation of this project at all selected sites.

# Budget for concept 3

Site Specific LLC  
43300 Carol Dr  
Nehalem, OR 97131 US  
(503)201-4559  
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## SITE SPECIFIC

### Estimate

#### ADDRESS

City of McCall  
216 East Park Street  
McCall, Idaho 83638  
(208) 634-7142

ESTIMATE # 1102

DATE 07/12/2022

#### CONTRACT NUMBER

McCall Library Children Section

EIN# 47-5096592

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DATE	ACTIVITY	QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
	<b>Project Management</b> Project management fee for duration of project (Oct 2022--2025)	1	2,000.00	2,000.00
	<b>Administration</b> Administration overhead fees for duration of project (Oct 2022--2025)	1	1,500.00	1,500.00
	<b>Research</b> Community outreach and research	1	2,000.00	2,000.00
	<b>Engineering</b> Engineering study and report for ceiling-mounted acoustic tile artworks	1	1,000.00	1,000.00
	<b>Archivist/Preservationist</b> Conservator study and report for ceiling-mounted acoustic tile artworks	1	500.00	500.00
	<b>Services</b> Design and creation of 6-8 specific patterns for cut-out production	1	5,000.00	5,000.00
	<b>Fabrication/Materials</b> Fabrication of roughly 150 acoustic tile cut-outs for ceiling mounting. This includes professional grade monofilament and steel ceiling hooks for installation	1	20,000.00	20,000.00
	<b>Installation</b> Final work installation 1.5 day estimated install time (includes travel and housing)	1.50	2,000.00	3,000.00
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$35,000.00</b>



Thank you

## SITE SPECIFIC

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503-201-4559

[joe@sitespecificwork.com](mailto:joe@sitespecificwork.com)  
[www.sitespecificwork.com](http://www.sitespecificwork.com)