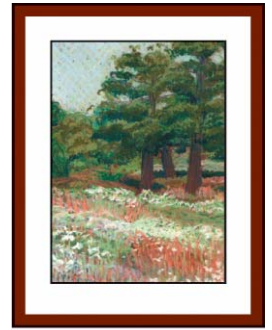


Cypress Spray Park - Public Art Work Project Proposal

Heidi Natura, Artist

Parks Project through the Madison Arts Commission

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Public Art Work as Community Art Project

- Involve Lincoln School children via their art classes in creation of the art work and expand learning opportunity through related study on textiles, pattern, color, etc.
- For this particular art work, the focus is on the fence as an existing framework to be amended and enhanced. An idea evolved to create a weaving with outdoor fabrics, crafting a pattern that could also serve as an identity icon for the park and broader neighborhood.
- The proposed art work itself speaks to the varied cultures that make up the neighborhood. Many cultures have a textile icon that individuals can identify with. A new textile pattern is offered as part of the art work that does not exclude any of the many cultures residing in the neighborhood, offering instead a new common community identity based on place.
- The pattern is festive, supporting the function of the park as an exciting play space oriented towards children.
- The choice of colors was completely dictated by the strong and dominant selections already made to coat the spray and playground equipment.
- The new artwork weaving applies the various colors in easily understood patterns. Several historic textile layouts from various cultures represented in the community were referenced. A common theme amongst many textile patterns is the application of a more complicated and detailed panel that alternates with a simpler, resting panel.

Practical Issues

- Proposed work builds off of the existing infrastructure, which leverages a larger art work for the allowed budget.
- The art work is expandable, potentially running the full length of the interior fence segment.
- The art work would be easy and inexpensive to repair if damaged.
- The design idea is simple to execute, thus the children's involvement will be more than token, and will help to fully realize the piece.
- The art work is both beautifying and highly functional. It would offer shade where none is currently provided. It also would provide shade for both the spray park and playground areas as a result of careful consideration of dimension and design of the proposed structure.
- Central placement on the interior fence strengthens the core of the park as a focal point and does not obstruct views into or out of the park
- Interior location offers protection to the art work from walk-by vandalism.
- The material currently targeted for use is resistant to burning and cutting. It also is designed to be easily rinsed clean with a hose.

Implementation

- The same local fence supplier and installer involved in the project originally would be targeted to provide new fence sections and attachments needed to create the canopy element. Final sizing of attachment members would occur after structural engineering review of the proposed design.
- The canopy sections would be woven in advance and delivered for onsite assembly. The vertical fence sections would be prepared for the student classes. Lincoln School Art Instructor Gwen Kong would target specific class sessions to participate in the weaving activities.
- The preparatory work and on site work would all be targeted for April of 2008, offering completion well in advance of the summer season.

Latino Textile



Hmong Textile



Kente Cloth

