



June 2022 Director's Report

It is hard to believe we are at the halfway point in our year already! We have finished up our May show, of photography, "Captured" and are full swing into our June events with the show "Celebrating Artists of Color" and an expanded "Juneteenth" celebration. The month of May saw good traffic to the Pump House and we had many graduation and wedding rentals.

On May 18th I attended a Park's and Rec regular meeting, which was also for the purpose of a public hearing on the Mulberry Street entrance to the park, which is right up the street. The city received a grant for about \$150,000 to landscape that area which used to be a bus garage and now is part of the park's service department. With this grant, they are employing a landscape architect for \$25,000 to design the area where those buildings currently sit. The large railway structure will remain as it is privately owned. This work will begin in the near future.

On May 25th I met with representatives of the Mighty Children's Museum. The ice rink will be in the large city parking lot next to the Pump House this fall, from Thanksgiving until Christmas. It will be lit up and they will sell tickets out of the Pump House from Thursday until Sunday during that time frame from when we open at 11 until 8 PM at night. This will bring many more people to the Pump House and give us great visibility. We appreciate this combined cooperation. In addition, we are working on a collaboration for our August show, Lego Artist John Bucy. John creates art out of Legos to hang on the wall and will have a full show of his work. The museum plans to have a Lego play area created at their facility and one at ours that we can promote children to come and get creative with Legos!

The Chillicothe Art League hung our June Show again for us. I can't tell you how much this is appreciated. This is extremely helpful to us and they do a wonderful job. Our opening was on a Saturday this year, June 4th, and was very well attended. It has caught the attention of the Gazette and Columbus Dispatch and we have been on the front page several times this month already. We have vendors set up in the Pump House every Saturday and a wealth of events occurring, from dance competitions to musical concerts. Something for everybody.

Our exterior painting will finish up in July, weather cooperating of course. This is being paid for from the Schaefer Foundation grant for \$10,000. It is great to see the old building come to life with a fresh coat of trim paint. In another bit of great news, the Pump House has been approved to be on the list for the state capital biennium budget for 2023-24 as soon as the Governor signs it. We worked closely with Senator Peterson's office to make this happen. The appropriation was to repair our external bricks and we received \$127,000. We will work out with the city for a matching component using the building that the city itself owns.

Our next show is an artist from Columbus, Gerry Enrico, who paints a nice blend of realism and abstract art. The show is sponsored by the Bryant "Beans" Butt Memorial Fund.