

CITY OF ASHLAND

PUBLIC ART COMMISSION - REGULAR MEETING April 16, 2021 AGENDA

- I. **CALL TO ORDER**
8:30 a.m. via zoom
- II. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**
- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
Public Arts Commission regular meeting of March 19, 2021
- IV. **PUBLIC FORUM –**
- V. **OTHER BUSINESS**
 - “Say Their Names” Coalition
- VI. **PAC WORKPLAN**
 - HUB Artwork – Jennifer Corio & David Frei
- VII. **PROJECT UPDATES**
 - Masterworks Plaques
- VIII. **LIAISON REPORTS**
 - Community Development Liaison – Aaron Anderson
 - APRC Liaison – Jim Lewis
- IX. **ADJOURNMENT**
Next Meeting: May 21, 2021
- X. **ATTACHMENTS**
Minutes from March 19, 2021 meeting

CITY OF ASHLAND

PUBLIC ART COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING - *Draft* March 19, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Andy Stallman called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m. via Zoom.

Commissioners Present:

Andy Stallman
Laura Bloom
Sandra Friend
Jennifer Longshore
Stanley Smith

Absent Members:

Staff Present:

Aaron Anderson, Associate Planner

APRC Liaison:

Jim Lewis

Council Liaison:

Stephen Jensen

Members of the Public:

Destiny Young
Mary Lou
Peter Finkle

II. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- a. Commissioner Longshore: using Zoom for the Power of Public Art meetings
- b. Commissioner Smith: mural concerns

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Public Arts Commission regular meeting of February 19, 2021

Commissioner Friend/Smith m/s to approve the minutes as corrected. Voice Vote: ALL AYES. Motion passed.

IV. PUBLIC FORUM – none

V. LIAISON REPORTS

- Council Liaison

Councilor Jensen gave an update on council business.

- Community Development Liaison

Staff Liaison Aaron Anderson explained he began the contract process with Jennifer Corio. They received the invoice from Masterbrand. There was one more decision to be finalized. Once it was, Mr. Anderson would get signed proofs from the Community Development Director and send out the next payment. Lastly, Glen Hill was seeking a letter of endorsement from the Commission on a proposed project. It would help him with grant opportunities. The proposal for the project needed work before the Commission could consider endorsing it.

- APRC Liaison

Commissioner Lewis gave an update on the Parks Commission.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

- TOT Allocation 2021–2023

Chair Stallman provided an update on the Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT). In December, the Public Arts Commission funds were \$76,614. This was prior to the payments sent to the artists for the HUB sculpture. The City Council decided to

maintain the Commission's allocation at 5%. The allocation estimates for 2021 was expected to be \$19,000. The allocation estimates for 2022 would be \$23,000.

- Recruitment

Commissioner Friend thought Destiny Young and Mary Lou were potential commissioners. Ms. Young was in the process of receiving a commission appointment possibly at the next City Council meeting. Currently, the mayor received applications and interviewed candidates then requested approval from the City Council. Commissioner Friend preferred having perspective candidates attend a commission meeting then apply with the City Recorder's office. Her intention was having the candidate meet with the Commission chair and vice chair prior to the meeting with the mayor.

It was noted that if the Commission did not have a new appointment by May 1, 2021, they would not have a quorum.

VII. PAC WORKPLAN

- HUB Artwork

Chair Stallman reviewed the selection process. He contacted the artists that did not get selected. He addressed using the appropriate Chinese characters for the HUB sculpture. The simple form was a product of Chinese communism and should not be used. Next steps to move the HUB artwork forward was having the Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission and City Council review the proposals.

There would be a plaque explaining the HUB Sculpture. Mr. Anderson commented the Commission had not discussed having a plaque. Chair Stallman clarified the MAP Subcommittee discussed the matter and it may not have reached the full Commission. Chair Stallman shared images of the final medallions.

- Strategic Goals

Commissioner Friend explained the three-year strategic plan initiated 2018 was in its final year. She provided an update on the strategic plans and made recommendations.

VIII. PROJECT UPDATES

- Masterworks Plaques

Chair Stallman discussed final proofs for Masterworks. The next step was having Community Development Director Bill Molnar sign the final proofs and issue the next payment.

- Expanding the Awareness of Public Art

Commissioner Longshore discussed using Zoom to celebrate the completed presentation. The Commission generally agreed to a weekday for the meeting at 4:00 p.m. They discussed quorum. Mr. Anderson would contact the Legal Department on whether a presentation by the Commission would violate public meeting law.

Peter Finkle shared descriptions he had proposed for the city story map of art. The Commission was in favor of the descriptions. Mr. Anderson raised a concern about linking directly to Mr. Finkle's webpage.

- Smith: mural concerns

Commissioner Smith shared a concern from a citizen about Sesame Asian Kitchen having their outside dining tables against the mural. The Commission thought the complaint should be sent to the Ashland Parks and Recreation Department.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 10:31 a.m.

Next Meeting: April 16, 2021 – 10:31 AM

Say Their Names

A Permanent Art Installation to
Promote Social Equity and
Racial Justice



Healing Art in Ashland

A permanent Say Their Names Memorial art installation would continue to bring community together and solidify Ashland's commitment to social equity and racial justice





OUR PAST

The community is reckoning with our history of racism and discrimination

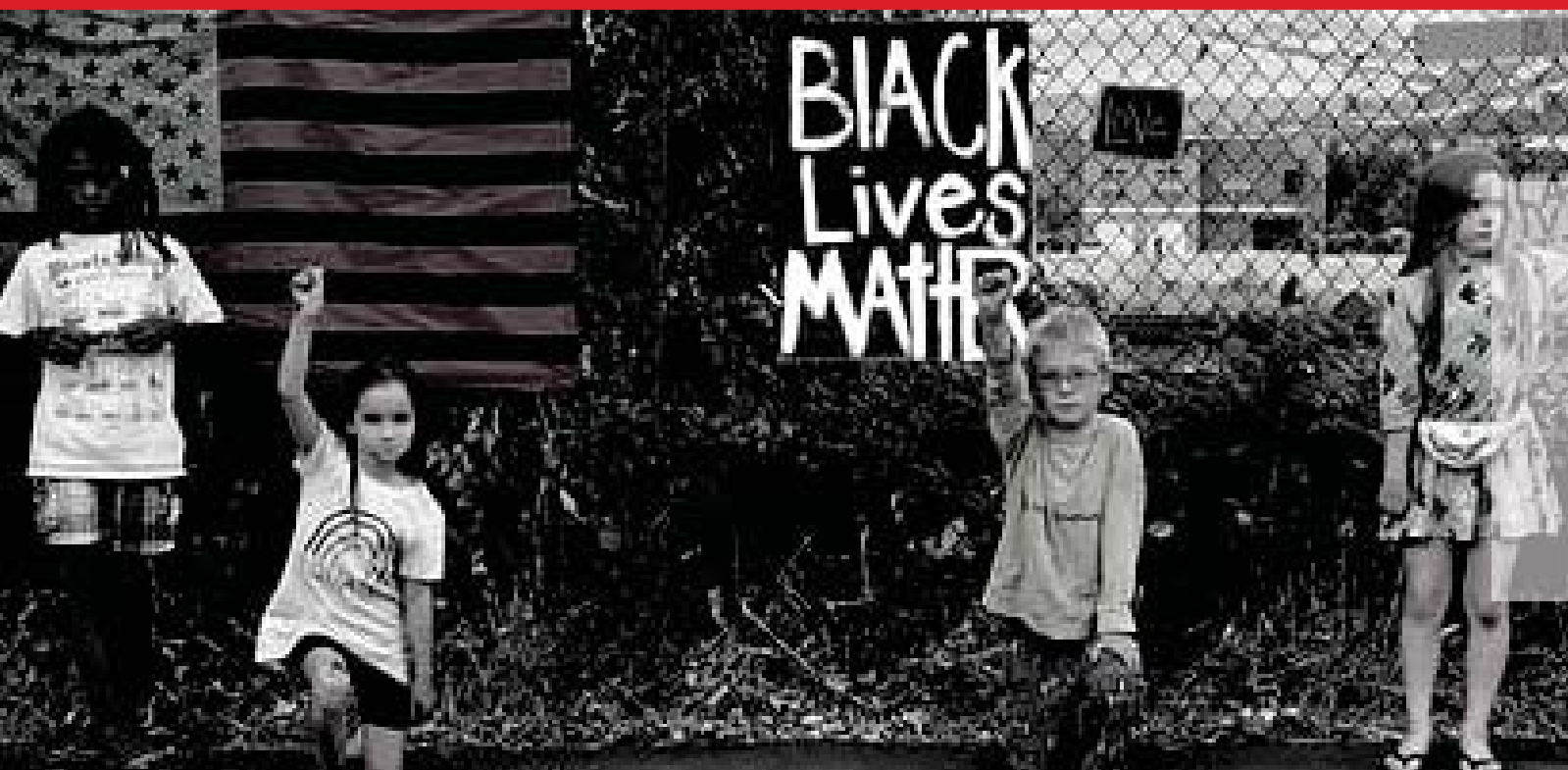
- Oregon joined the union with "lash laws," which banned Blacks
- Many towns in the Rogue Valley were "sundown towns"
- Work is needed to forge a new path forward

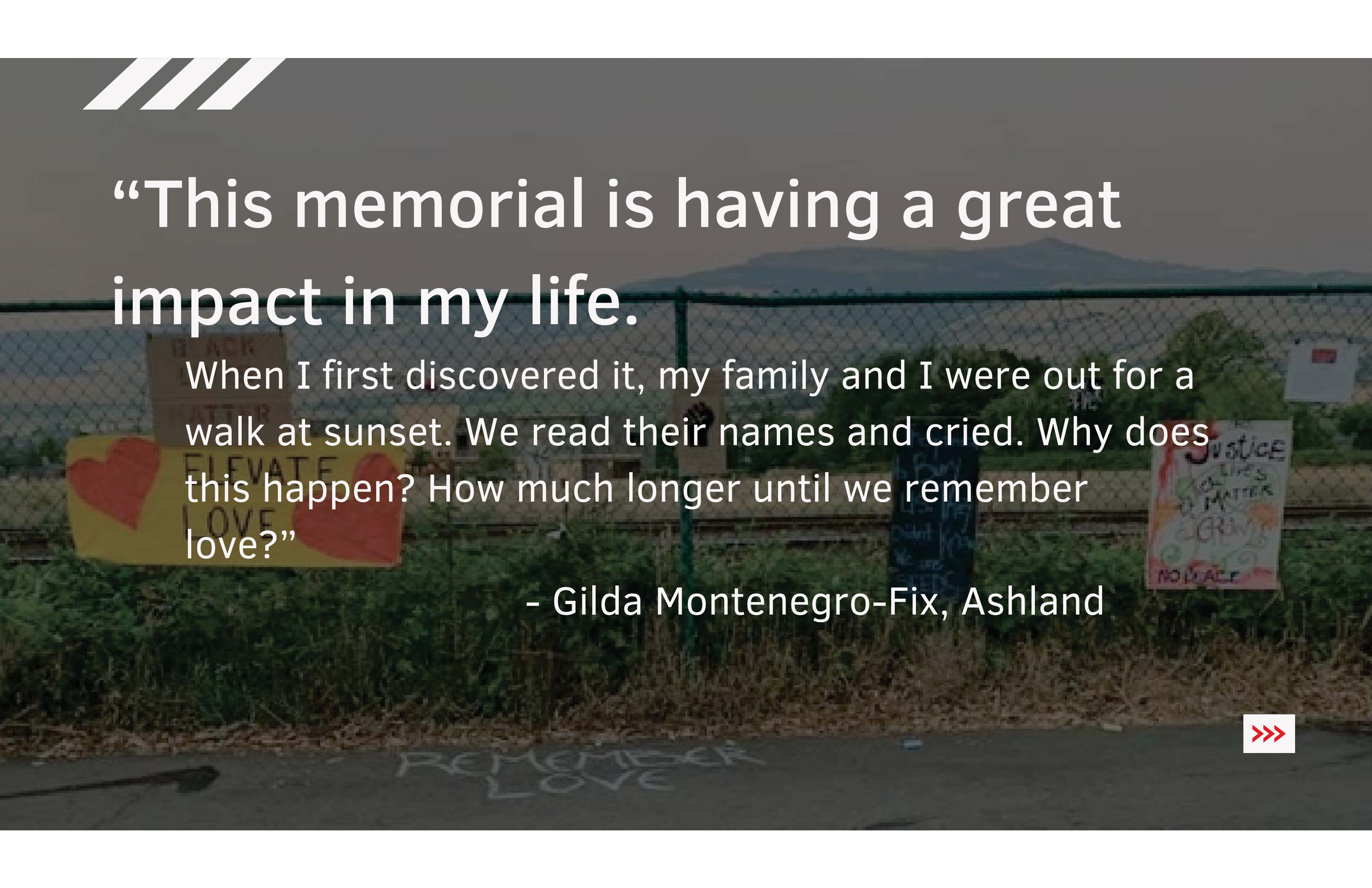
Say Their Names Memorial

- Installed by local artists on June 28, 2020
- Recognition of our shared history
- Amidst increasing awareness of the assault on Black lives globally and locally



Community Impact






“This memorial is having a great impact in my life.

When I first discovered it, my family and I were out for a walk at sunset. We read their names and cried. Why does this happen? How much longer until we remember love?”

- Gilda Montenegro-Fix, Ashland



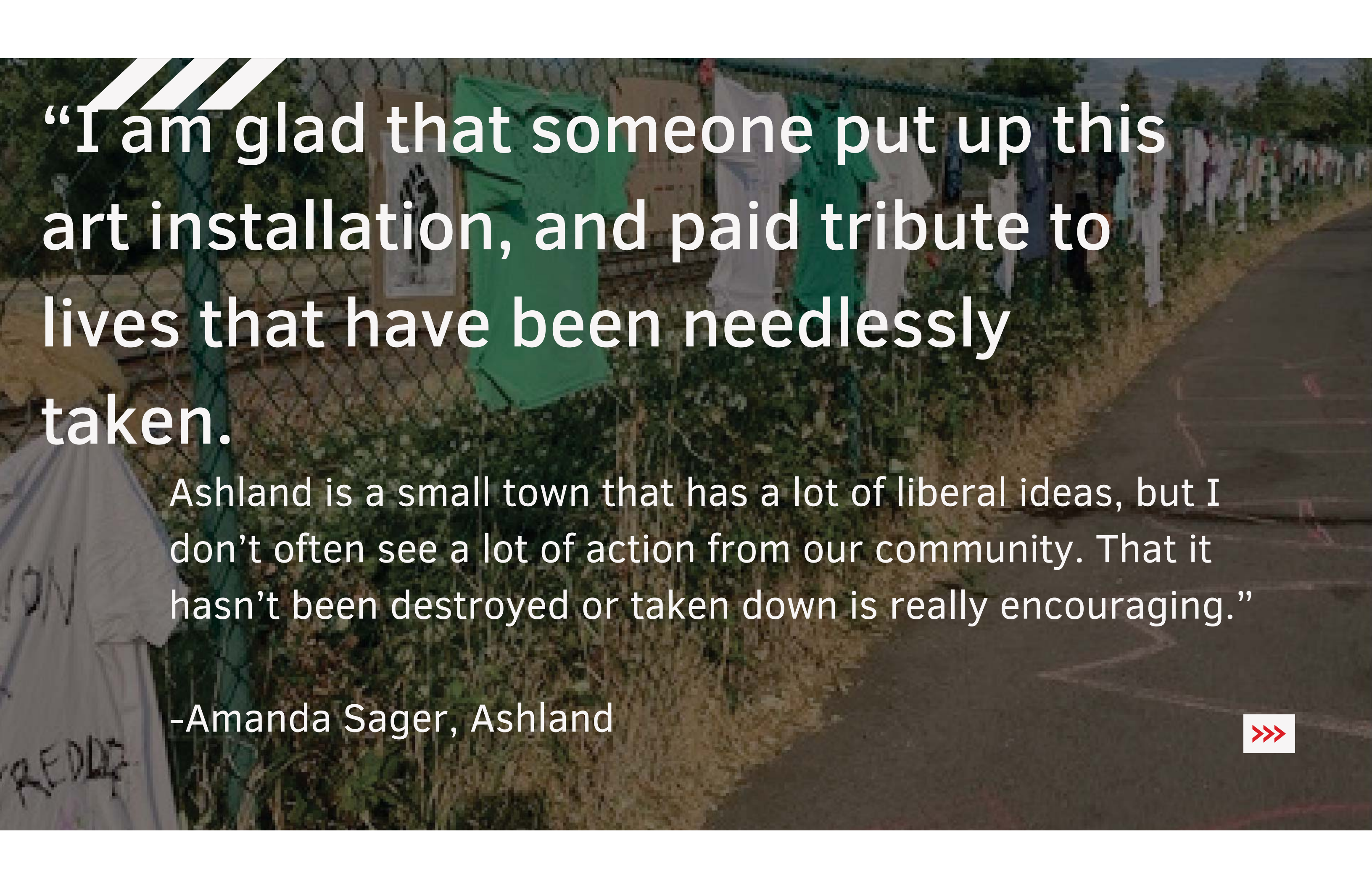
The background of the slide is a photograph of a memorial fence. The fence is covered with various items: colorful t-shirts, blue jeans, and small photographs of people. The items are hanging from the fence, which is made of chain-link. The scene is outdoors, with trees and a clear sky in the background. In the top left corner, there are four white diagonal lines.

“I walk to the Say Their Names Memorial every day.

The energy is powerful and I feel connected to the victims when I simply adjust and re-affix the shirts...The stories of the victims honored at this memorial may be different but the outcome has been the same: The unnecessary tragic murder of a mother, a father, a husband, a wife, a sister, a brother, a child. I weep.”

- Barbara Helfand, Ashland



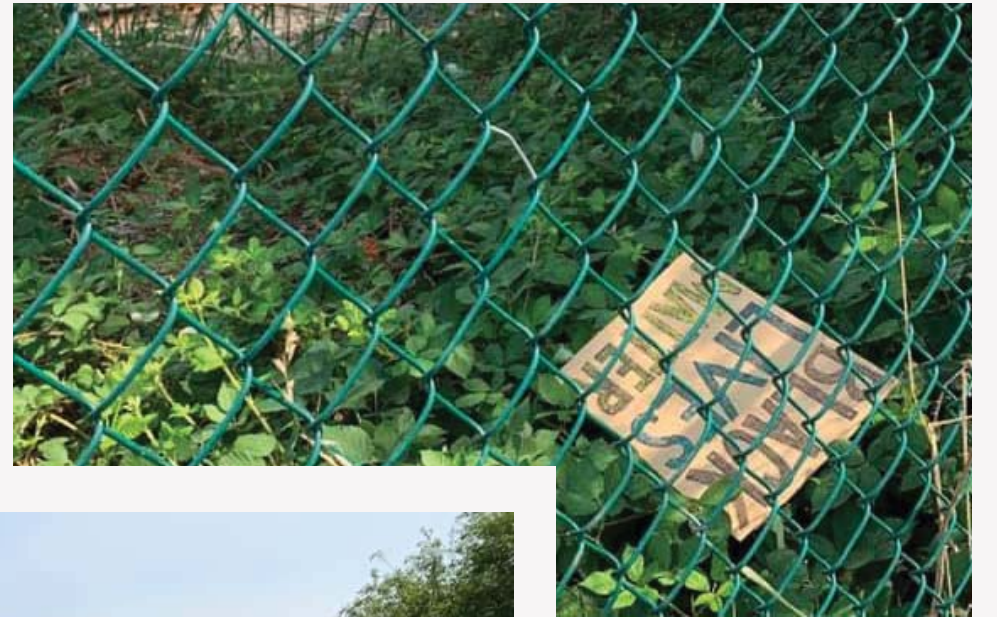


“I am glad that someone put up this art installation, and paid tribute to lives that have been needlessly taken.

Ashland is a small town that has a lot of liberal ideas, but I don't often see a lot of action from our community. That it hasn't been destroyed or taken down is really encouraging.”

-Amanda Sager, Ashland





8/22/20





Railroad Park
8/23/20



14 majority of City of Ashland residents, Ashland has not yet reached the point where it is a
15 comfortable place for people of color to live, work, own a business, and raise their children; and
16 D. The Ashland City Council recognizes that local leaders who have been advocating for racial
17 justice and social equity on behalf of their families and communities cannot and should not be
18 asked to shoulder this work alone. There is work to be done by all Ashland residents, including
19 this Council; and
20 E. We find ourselves in a moment in time similar to, but in many ways distinct from, previous
21 incidents of police brutality that have happened in various locations across our country. What we
22 know from the past is that too often outrage tapers off over time, and there is strong momentum
23 to go back to business as usual. We must use this historic moment to commit to doing the



A Resolution

Declaring Ashland's Commitment to Social Equity and Racial Justice

H. Determine the feasibility of a mural project to provide a mode of artistic expression of our community's commitment to making meaningful, visible, and ongoing progress on issues of social equity and racial justice.



Fatal shooting of Black teen roils liberal Oregon town

DECEMBER 4, 2020 / 8:11 AM / AP

f t

Home > Chicago > Oregon teen Aidan Ellison killed over loud music

Chicago Chicago-Local News Chicago-Pulse Gary Gary-Local News Gary-Pulse Local News Pulse

Oregon teen Aidan Ellison killed over loud music

November 28, 2020

12187 0

US Crime + Justice Energy + Environment Extreme Weather Space + Science

A man fatally shot a teenager in Oregon for playing loud music Thanksgiving week, police say

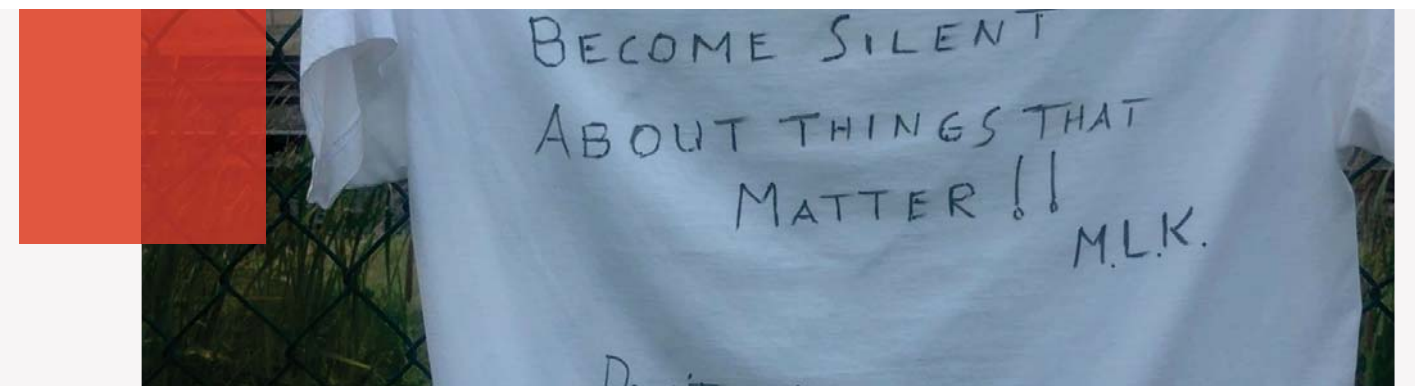
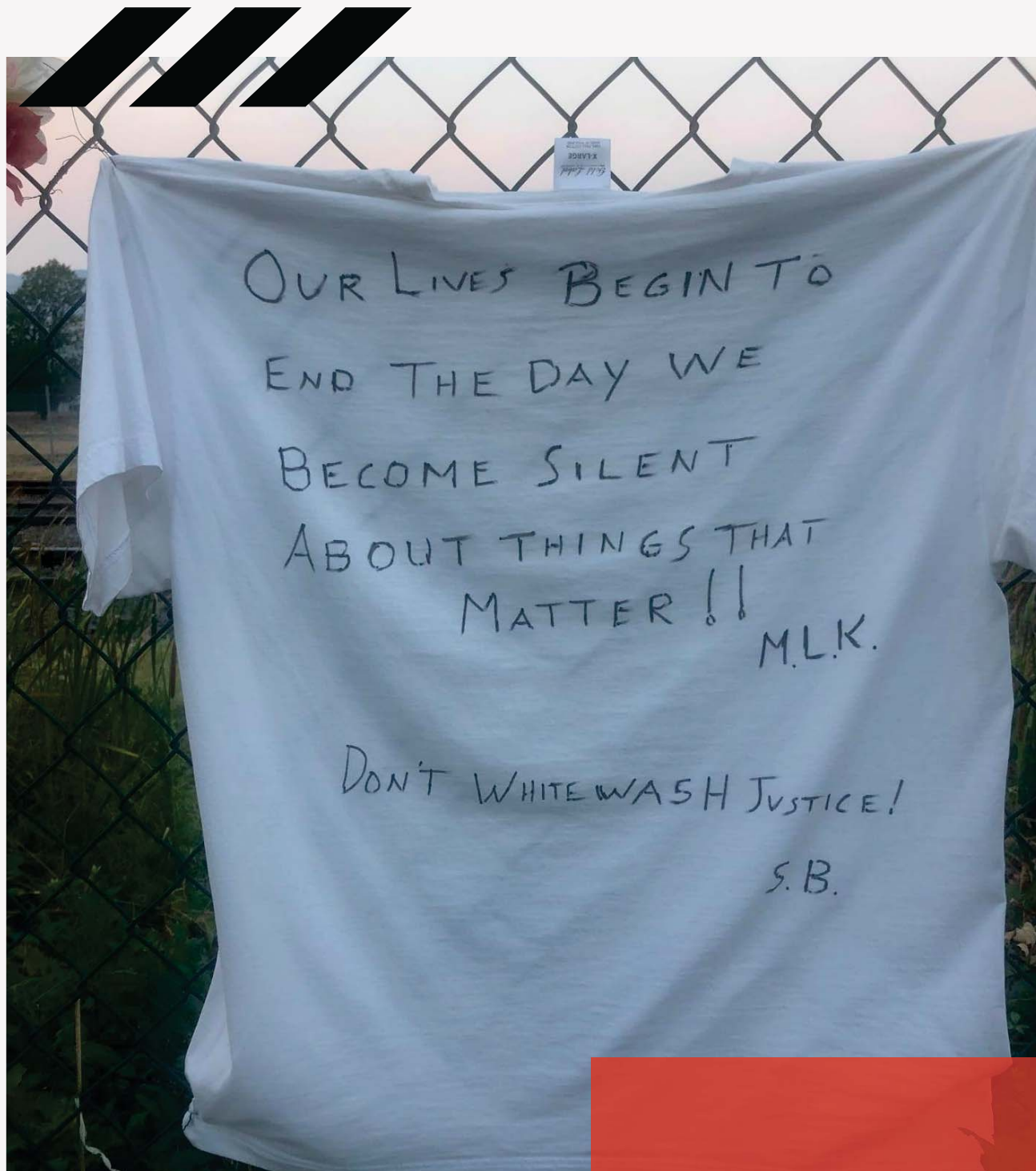
By Alaa Elassar, CNN

Updated 7:29 AM ET, Mon November 30, 2020

LIVE TV Edition

Aidan Ellison





The Importance of Now



A Chance To Heal



City Council resolutions support this endeavor

Each step of the process ensures additional community involvement

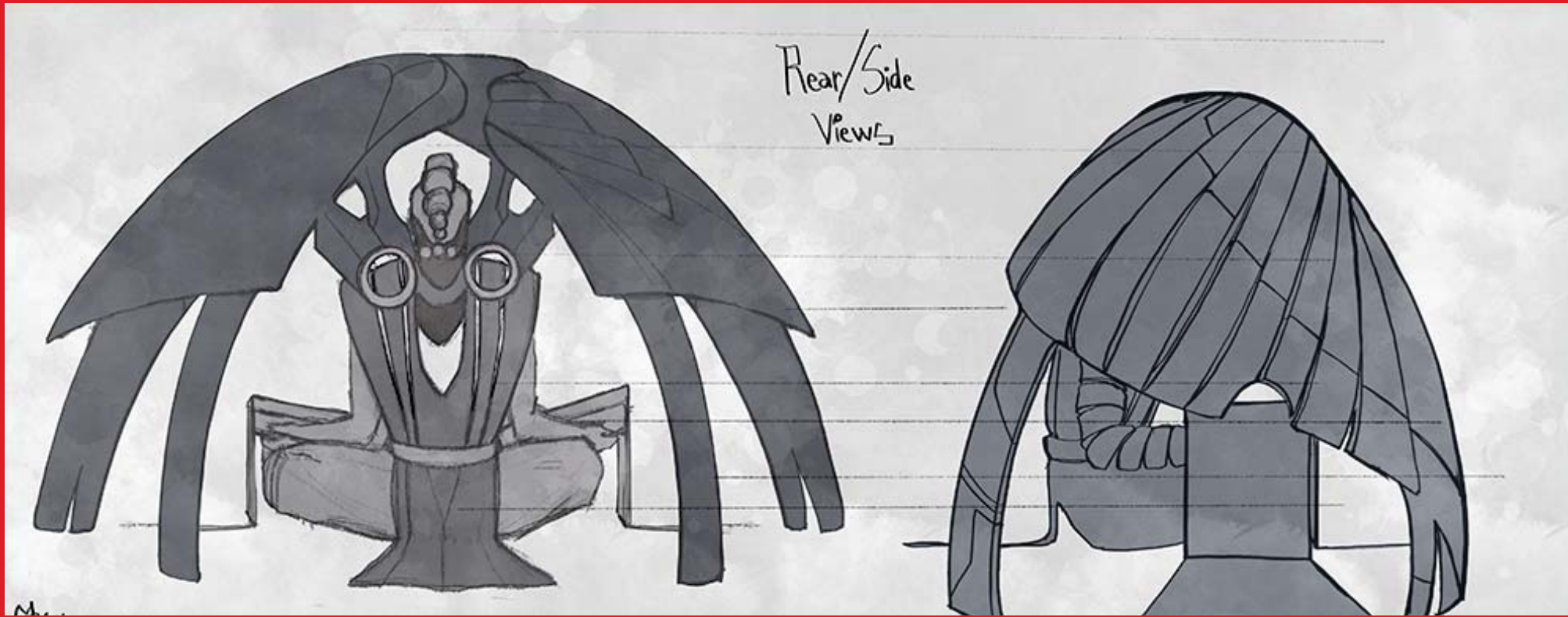
We hope to have the support and backing of the PAC to move this project forward

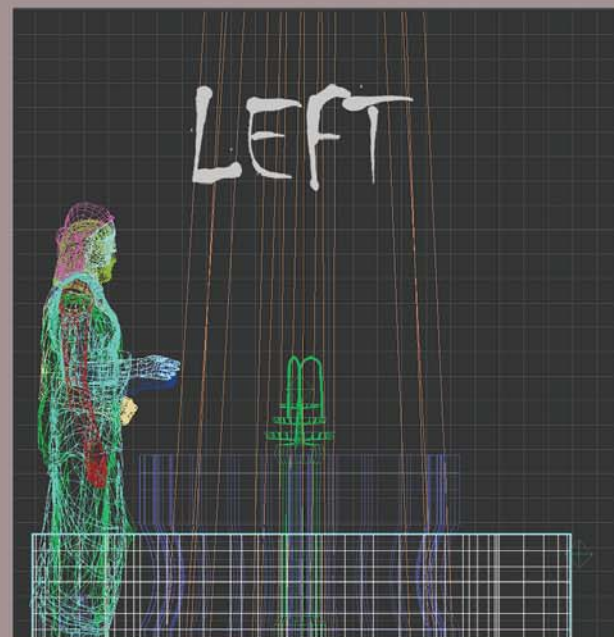
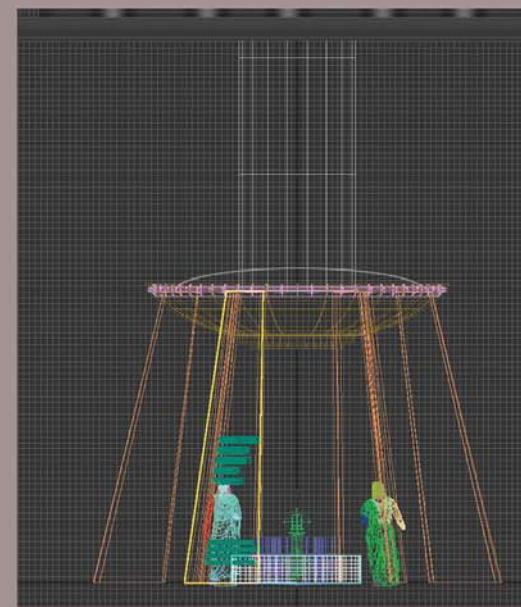
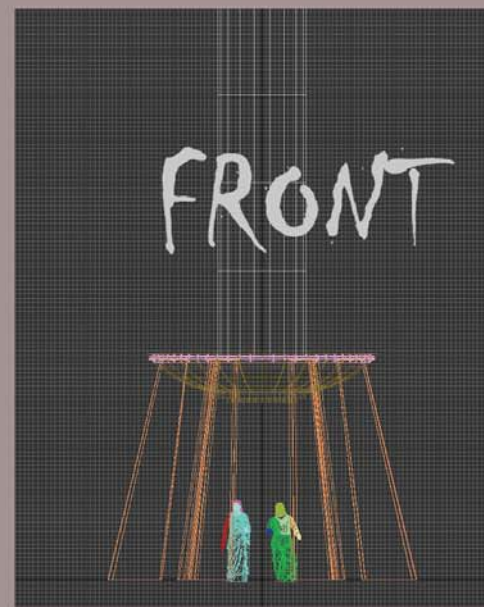
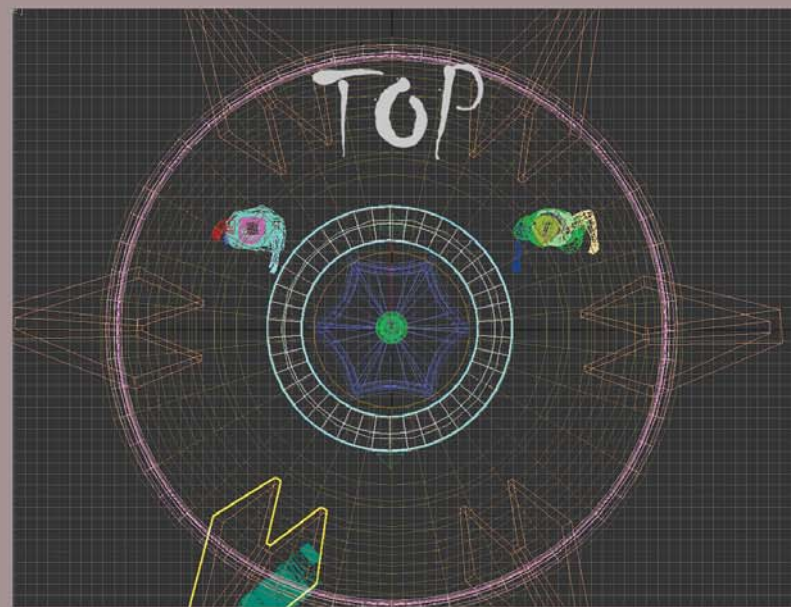
Collaboratively Driven and Supported

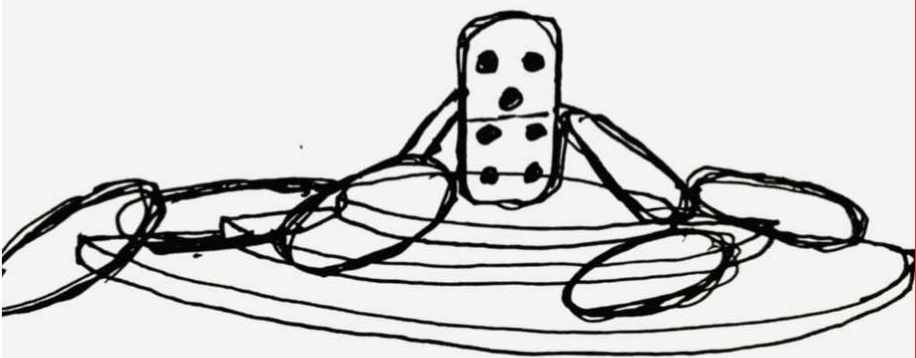
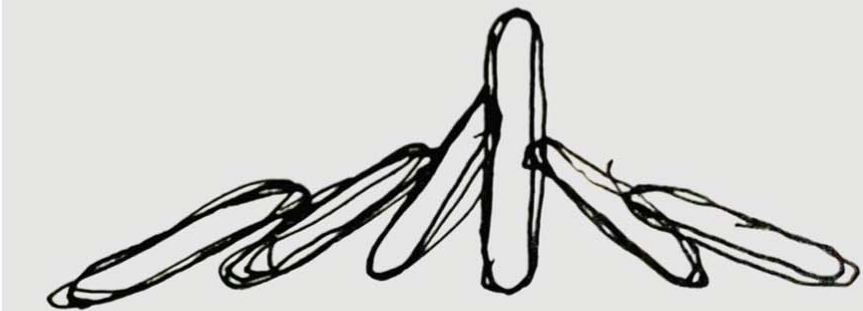


Artist Proposals









BLACK LIVES MATTER



Urban League
Greater Southwestern Ohio

Financial Support

Estimated cost: \$100,000

Needed: Grants, crowdsourcing,
and City support



Will you support this project?



Next Steps

Aaron Anderson

From: City of Ashland, Oregon <administration@ashland.or.us>
Sent: Wednesday, April 07, 2021 9:41 PM
To: planning
Subject: Public Arts Commission Contact Form Submitted

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

*** FORM FIELD DATA***

Full Name: **Janet Downingstar**

Phone: **5412186453**

Email: **Stardjanet@gmail.com**

Subject: **Say their names Art installation**

Message: I want to express my appreciation for this project and tell you how it affected us. December 2019 I finally became that my 15 yr old black child had been living with verbal racism and mountains of micro aggressions on the regular and that it was hurting her a lot. I had lived in kerby for 20 years and I am a single mother of 2 now grown children an Tj. I had been a mail carrier in gp for many years but when I finally realized how much harm the racism and mean-ness that was growing in the area was causing my child I quit my job and began to try to find a place where they'd be comfortable enough to want to go outside. We made several road trips trying to find a possibility and as the school year was approaching we made a decision on Ashland. The first days after arriving we took the walk thru the park and came upon the display and I was as I still do when I walk thru the park crying, trying to breathe and just feeling so grateful to share with the community this concern awa r eness and the pain as well. By the end of that walk I could also see my child smiling and a sense that maybe we had found a community not to far from our home that could feel a bit safer. The next few weeks her older sister came to visit and a family friend another day and both times Tj wanted to go out and take them walking thru that park . She wanted to go outside! I had found a place and much of the panic and anxiety would subside enough for us to feel hopeful again. I am truly thankful for the people and the work they did with the Say their names project and hope that it continues as I am certain it will continue to be valueable to many people . Unfortunately we won?t be able to stay here because it is also a very expensive Place to live but I?m so grateful for our time here and we?ll hopefully be back . I may have run long with this but it?s important for me to share and give back to this effort in anyway I can. Much Love, Janet and Tj Downingstar

Attachment 1 file:

Attachment 2 file:

Attachment 3 file:

*** USER INFORMATION ***

SubscriberID: **-1**

SubscriberUserName:

SubscriberEmail:

RemoteAddress: **66.241.70.76**

RemoteHost: **66.241.70.76**

RemoteUser:

Aaron Anderson

From: City of Ashland, Oregon <administration@ashland.or.us>
Sent: Thursday, April 08, 2021 11:34 AM
To: planning
Subject: Public Arts Commission Contact Form Submitted

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

*** FORM FIELD DATA***

Full Name: **Sonya Smith**

Phone: **4157069535**

Email: **lecirqueashland@gmail.com**

Subject: **Say Their Names Art Installation**

Message: **Hello As a community member and business owner in Ashland, I have appreciated the community involvement that has led to the constantly evolving memorial on the fence along Railroad Park. The Public Art Commission's support for a permanent installation will do several things: -Support a BIPOC artist in creating meaningful art. -Ensure that this anti-racist art installation is created with more durable (and therefore more expensive) materials -publicly acknowledge the city of Ashland's commitment to becoming more actively and visibly anti-racist in policy and practice. Thank you for your consideration Sonya Smith owner, Le Cirque Centre**

Attachment 1 file:

Attachment 2 file:

Attachment 3 file:

*** USER INFORMATION ***

SubscriberID: **-1**

SubscriberUserName:

SubscriberEmail:

RemoteAddress: **66.241.70.76**

RemoteHost: **66.241.70.76**

RemoteUser:

From: [City of Ashland, Oregon](#)
To: [planning](#)
Subject: Public Arts Commission Contact Form Submitted
Date: Friday, April 09, 2021 10:44:09 AM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

*** FORM FIELD DATA ***

Full Name: **Sage Keene**

Phone: **541-324-6709**

Email: **sage.keene@gmail.com**

Subject: **Support the Say Their Names memorial!**

Message: **I am writing to express my support for the Say Their Names memorial in Railroad Park, and to strongly encourage the Public Arts Commission to support this project unreservedly. One of our citizens was killed in a race-based hate crime just three months ago, which demonstrates how very far Ashland and southern Oregon have to grow, in terms of becoming a safe place for BIPOC residents and business owners. This memorial gives me comfort, strength, encouragement, and resolve every time I go past it. It is a reminder to our town and our region that, no matter how prevalent white supremacy is, there will always be those willing to stand against it, and willing to move our town and country forward in the very necessary racial healing that is facing us right now. Ashland has so far taken only the tiniest of baby steps toward becoming an equitable and safe town for BIPOC. A permanent Say Their Names installation will serve as an important reminder to our community of the work ahead of us, while giving strength and comfort to those of us doing the work. It is also the very least we can do, to honor the memory of Aidan Ellison and the beautiful potential life that his murder cut short. Ashland can do better. The Say Their Names memorial is visible testament to Ashland's capacity and commitment to do better.**

Attachment 1 file:

Attachment 2 file:

Attachment 3 file:

*** USER INFORMATION ***

SubscriberID: **-1**

SubscriberUserName:

SubscriberEmail:

RemoteAddress: **66.241.70.76**

RemoteHost: **66.241.70.76**

RemoteUser:

From: [City of Ashland, Oregon](#)
To: [planning](#)
Subject: Public Arts Commission Contact Form Submitted
Date: Friday, April 09, 2021 11:59:29 AM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

*** FORM FIELD DATA ***

Full Name: **Julie Gillis**

Phone: **5125690562**

Email: **juliejezebel@gmail.com**

Subject: **Permanent Arts Installation for Say Their Names**

Message: **I am emailing to state my strong advocacy for a permanent arts installation for Say Their Names. I have watched with grave concern and deep despair as countless Black and BIPOC individuals have been killed by police. The response to these murders has been quick and passionate and right. The installation on our bike path is beautiful and powerful. It should be protected and preserved, much as the memories of those killed must be protected and preserved. I have offered, to the collective my skills and volunteer commitment as have many other residents in Ashland. It will be a powerful statement from our city to the BIPOC residents if such an installation is created and protected. We have the opportunity to do the right thing and to take action through art to promote a deep advocacy for the residents of our city. Please help us create this permanent installation.**

Attachment 1 file:

Attachment 2 file:

Attachment 3 file:

*** USER INFORMATION ***

SubscriberID: **-1**

SubscriberUserName:

SubscriberEmail:

RemoteAddress: **66.241.70.76**

RemoteHost: **66.241.70.76**

RemoteUser: