

★ Roll Call Number

Agenda Item Number

42

Date August 20, 2007

2006-07 Annual Report from the Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation.

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ to receive and file.

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
COWNIE				
COLEMAN				
HENSLEY				
KIERNAN				
MAHAFFEY				
MEYER				
VCLASSIS				
TOTAL				
MOTION CARRIED	APPROVED			

CERTIFICATE

I, DIANE RAUH, City Clerk of said City hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council of said City of Des Moines, held on the above date, among other proceedings the above was adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

IOWA NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION  
PUBLIC ART PROJECT

A

MONUMENTAL  
JOURNEY



CAPITOL HILL

BLACK HISTORY PROGRAM

SPONSORED BY

REPRESENTATIVE WAYNE W. FORD

FEBRUARY 1, 2007

DES MOINES, IOWA

- Attendees*
- INBA Member-at-Large, John Thomas
  - Executive Board Chair of INBA, Charles C. Thomas
  - INBA President, N. Kelly Camp-DeB
  - INBA President-Elect, Vardine Brooks
  - INBA President-Elect, Willie S. Choudum
  - INBA President-Elect, James J. ...
  - INBA President-Elect, Ronald D. ...
  - INBA President-Elect, Wayne W. Ford
  - INBA President-Elect, Deborah Berry
  - INBA President-Elect, David Walker
  - INBA President-Elect, Ellen ...
  - INBA President-Elect, ...
  - INBA President-Elect, ...



IOWA NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION  
P.O. Box 2010  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0210  
PH 515-281-3300  
FAX 515-281-3304

A MONUMENTAL PLEDGE

The Iowa National Bar Association and the National Bar Association request your generous support to build a monument in honor of the founders/incorporators of the National Bar Association.

Individual Sponsors

- Step Up \$500 - \$1,499
- Speaker's Corner \$1,500 - \$2,999
- Founders Circle \$3,000 - \$4,999
- Freedom Rings \$5,000 - \$7,499
- Free at Last \$7,500 & above

Corporate/Philanthropic Sponsors

- Diamond \$50,000 +
- Platinum \$40,000 +
- Gold \$25,000 +
- Silver \$10,000 +
- Bronze \$5,000 +

Gifts are 100% tax deductible. Contributions of \$1,000 or more will be recognized on a plaque on or near the monument.

Please make donations payable to:  
The Greater Des Moines Community Foundation  
Iowa National Bar Association Monument Fund  
1915 Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION

### MONUMENT

#### The Journey

The idea for the National Bar Association (NBA) monument grew from a dialogue between Iowa National Bar Association past president Odell McGhiee and National Bar Association past president Evette Simmonds in 2002 while attending the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the National Bar Association held in Des Moines, Iowa.

#### The Purpose

To preserve the legacy of African American lawyers who founded and incorporated the National Bar Association in 1925, dedicated to justice, equality and civil rights in the legal system.

#### The Goal

To create a visually inspiring monument that memorializes the struggle of the National Bar Association founders/incorporators and to recognize the State of Iowa.

#### The Concept

To provide a Free Speech Platform where the voices of all citizens in the community may be heard.

#### The Site

The proposed site location is in downtown Des Moines, west of the Des Moines Police Department on East 1<sup>st</sup> Street and Court Avenue.

#### The Budget

\$750,000 - \$1,000,000



Gertrude E. Rush, First African American female licensed to practice law in Iowa

### Phase I

October 2006 – February 2007

#### Establish Committees

- Iowa NBA Monument Committee Steering Committee
- Artist Selection Panel
- Fundraising Chairs
- Landscaping
- Site Selection
- Develop Collaborative Relationships
  - The Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation
  - Des Moines City Council
  - Greater Des Moines Community Foundation
  - Principal River Walk Committee
  - DSM Parks and Recreation
  - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
  - Principal Financial Corporation
  - The National Bar Association
  - Riverfront Development Commission

### Phase II

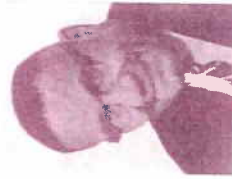
March 2007 – December 2007

- Fundraising
- Grant Proposals
- Artist Selection
- Artist Proposals
- Artist Contract

### Phase III

January 2008 – December 2008

- Groundbreaking
- Construction
- Monument Completion
- Dedication



Charles P. Howard  
Drake Law School

### NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT

Pioneer African American lawyers dedicated to fight segregation and legal racism began gathering between 1890 and 1900 to begin the formation of The National Bar Association.

This movement had a permanent profound impact upon a nation that excluded African American lawyers from the mainstream of society and the legal profession.

The National Bar Association was founded at a Iowa Colored Bar Association convention held in Des Moines in 1924. They incorporated one year later on August 1, 1925.

The five founders were Iowans: George H. Woodson, S. Joe Brown, Gertrude E. Rush, James B. Morris, and Charles P. Howard, Sr. The others, Wendell E. Green, C. Francis Stradford, Jesse N. Baker, William H. Haynes, and George C. Adams were from Chicago, and Charles H. Calloway, L. Amasa Knox from Kansas City. The ingenuity of these Midwestern lawyers changed the course of history.

It was a time when the American Bar Association and other national legal associations denied membership to African American lawyers because of their race. Its founding was an act of vision and promise.



James B. Morris



S. Joe Brown

The Des Moines Public Library transferred archival NBA materials to Drake University Law School in a ceremony February 1, 2007 dedicating a room of Carnegie Hall to house the archives.

The National Bar Association is the Nation's oldest and largest national association of predominantly African American lawyers and judges representing the United States, Africa, England, Canada and the Virgin Islands.



GEORGE H. WOODSON  
THE NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION'S FIRST PRESIDENT



greater des moines  
public art  
foundation

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2006-07  
annual report  
des moines  
city council

August 15, 2007

GREATER DES MOINES  
· PUBLIC ART ·  
FOUNDATION

August 15, 2007

Honorable Mayor Frank Cownie & Des Moines City Council Members  
Des Moines City Hall  
400 Robert D. Ray Drive  
Des Moines, IA 50309

Honorable Mayor Cownie & Des Moines City Council Members:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation, I am pleased to submit the enclosed 2006-07 Annual Report.

This preliminary report details activities pertaining to projects, governance, administration, and financial management in accord with the requirements of an Agreement, dated March 19, 2004, between the City of Des Moines and the Greater Des Moines Public Community Foundation, serving as fiscal agent for the Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation.

The Foundation continues to pursue its mission of acquiring the highest quality public art for the City of Des Moines.

The following items are enclosed:

- ◆ Narrative report on activities
- ◆ Financial Spreadsheet [2006-07 Ending June 30, 2007]
- ◆ Board of Director's Roster

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I want to thank you and the members of the City Council for your continuing support of the Foundation. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Respectfully,

  
John W. Firman  
Consultant  
Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation

1915 Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Pamela Bass-Bookey

VICE-PRESIDENT

William Friedman, Jr.

SECRETARY

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King Au

Alex Brown

David Dahlquist

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Jeanne Levitt

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Jeff Fleming

Paul Mankins

Katie Meredith

Gregg Narber

Mary O'Keefe

CONSULTANT

John W. Firman

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jwfing2@aol.com



Title: *Untitled*  
Artist: *Jennifer Lynn Bates*  
Project: *City Performance Report*

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Artist: Barrie Lester  
Exterior Mural: Orchard Place/PACE @  
Location: 8<sup>th</sup> & High Streets

## SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

**I**n the most recently completed fiscal year, the Foundation reaffirmed its mission to identify, select, and commission professional artists to create high quality works of art for new or renovated public buildings, parks, lands, and streetscapes. The decisive factor by which artists and works of art are selected is “excellence”; an unequivocal principle considered the core of the Foundation’s purpose.

The sections that follow summarize the Foundation’s operations over the past year and serves as the Annual Report required by the City of Des Moines.



Artist: Matthew Kargol, Oskaloosa  
Title: Spotted Dog  
Project: East Village Bike Rack

# SECTION 2: PUBLIC ART INITIATIVES

## SUMMARY

In 2005-06, the Foundation continued to fulfill its mission of commissioning professional artists to create works of the imagination for the city's public art collection.

The Foundation's work over the last year helps highlight its vision of excellence and commitment to serve the public. The projects in which the Foundation is involved are at various stages; i.e.; Pending, In Progress, and Completed; a description of each is as follows...

### **PROJECTS PENDING**

- ◆ Neighborhood Project — Restoration Ingersoll
- ◆ Art in Transit [I-235] A collaboration with the Department of Transportation

### **PROJECTS IN PROGRESS**

- ◆ Rotary Club of Des Moines Literary Project
- ◆ National Bar Association Project

### **PROJECTS COMPLETED**

- ◆ Temple Chess & Poetry Garden
- ◆ City of Des Moines — 2005 & 2006 "Art of the Community" Performance Report
- ◆ Iowa Events Center's Hy-Vee Hall of Pride
- ◆ East Village Bicycle Rack Project
- ◆ Science Center of Iowa



## SECTION 2: PUBLIC ART INITIATIVES

### PROJECTS PENDING

#### NEIGHBORHOOD PROJECT — RESTORATION INGERSOLL

Foundation President Pamela Bass-Bookey and City Council member Christine Hensley have met with leaders of the city's Neighborhood Associations to explore the opportunities associated with Restoration Ingersoll. To date, project plans include the following elements...

- ♦ Identifying key locations for public art
- ♦ Decorative street lighting
- ♦ Widened pedestrian sidewalks
- ♦ New street trees, benches, bicycle racks, planter urns and flower beds
- ♦ Expanding on-street parking & shared off-street parking lots.

This project will start a process whereby the Foundation will help identify sites in neighborhoods throughout the city at which public art is appropriate for installation.

#### ART IN TRANSIT [I-235] — A COLLABORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The Iowa Department of Transportation [IDOT] and the Foundation are currently in discussions regarding public art on the entrances and exits of the newly renovated Interstate 235.

Representatives from IDOT are scheduled to attend a Foundation Executive Committee meeting on August 29, 2007 to discuss the issues necessary to initiate this distinctive project.

## SECTION 2: PUBLIC ART INITIATIVES

### PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

#### ROTARY CLUB OF DES MOINES LITERARY PROJECT

The Rotary Club of Des Moines and the Foundation continue to develop this project. The Club has created a statement of purpose, in which it is envisioned that a public works of art will...

*"HAVE A LASTING IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY, BE OF SIGNIFICANCE AND HIGH PROFILE, INVOLVE DIRECTLY ALL MEMBERS OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF DES MOINES, REPRESENT THE IMPACT THE CLUB AND ITS MEMBERS HAVE HAD ON THE COMMUNITY, AND REFLECT THE EMPHASIS AND GOALS OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL."*

Ted Kooser, the Poet Laureate of the United States in 2006 has agreed to work with an equally prominent visual artist to conceptualize and create the work.

#### NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION PROJECT

Polk County Associate Judge Odell McGhee has plans to create a monument to honor the Des Moines' African-American attorneys who founded the National Bar Association, in 1929.

At the time, African-American's were not allowed admittance into the *American Bar Association* [ABA] and, as such, the *National Bar Association* [NBA] was established to accommodate the needs of this underserved population, in a racially divided society.

#### BLANK PARK ZOO

The Blank Park Zoo shared its plans to acquire a significant work of public art for the entrance to the facility. The Zoo will be seeking both financial support and assistance in the artist selection process from the Foundation.



Title: *Untitled*  
Artist: Michael Holmes

## SECTION 2: PUBLIC ART INITIATIVES

### PROJECTS COMPLETED

#### TEMPLE CHESS & POETRY GARDEN



Artist: Siah Armajani  
Title: Temple Chess & Poetry Garden [Detail]

The *Temple Chess & Poetry Garden* was conceived, designed, and fabricated by internationally known artist Siah Armajani. The Garden is rapidly becoming a favorite gathering place, where people can go to simply enjoy the day or play one another in a game of chess.

The idea was originally conceived of by family members of the late Bennett Webster, a well-known, life-long resident of Des Moines. The family made overtures to the Foundation with an idea; they wanted the Foundation's help in commissioning an artist to create a single

chess table in honor of the late Mr. Webster — their desire was to locate the table in a prominent place in the Western Gateway Park.

The idea rapidly evolved from that of a single chess table into a multi-faceted, site-specific environmental work designed and created by Mr. Armajani. He was inspired to fabricate a variety of objects that would “...activate a space, be inviting to the public, and include interactive elements”.

His creation accomplished what he set out to do. The Garden includes three chess tables, a rectangular area surrounded by fencing with embedded, brass-lettered lines of poetry, benches for sitting, and a large square multi purpose table. The area is landscaped with plantings and trees and granite covers the ground surface.

#### EAST VILLAGE BICYCLE RACKS

The East Village hosted its second annual “**Rack 'n' Roll Project**,” funded in part by the Foundation, which culminated in commissioning five Iowa artists to create bike rack sculptures for installation throughout the historic East Village area.



Artist: Tim Adams, Webster City  
Title: High Wheeler

The Foundation was pleased to assist the Historic East Village, Inc. again this year by helping to select the artist and provide one-half of the financial stipends paid to each commissioned artist.

The competition attracted an extensive number of entries from Iowa artists. They were reviewed by an experienced panel of judges who identified finalists and recommended them for commissions.

The sculptures were unveiled during “*Bike to Work Week*”, which took place during May 2006.

#### THE IOWA EVENTS CENTER HY-VEE HALL OF PRIDE

With assistance from the Foundation, officials of the Iowa Events Center — Hy-Vee Hall, commissioned Des Moines native, and New York City artist Anna Gaskell to create a site-specific work of art for the Hall. Ms. Gaskell created an outdoor “hedge maze,” titled “**Until the Woods Began to Move**” which is an inter-active artwork that introduces “*living*” public art to downtown Des Moines.

