



2015-
2016

CITY ARTS ADVISORY COMMISSION
ANNUAL REPORT



Cover Story

Why the Sun Always Shines in Sequim

Long ago, before the world came to be as it is today, the climate was always cold, dark and stormy. This was because the “Chief of the Land Above” had all the heat and light of the world trapped in the fire pit in his house. He lived in the sky, far to the east, in a large house made entirely of stone.

At this time, there was a small village located on the shore of a beautiful, calm bay. The village was called Scqwe'yen (today we pronounce it “Skwim”). In this village lived a man, his dutiful wife, and their two young sons named Kweye'cen and Sck'ayec. The people of this village were growing weak from hunger. Constant storms rocked the ocean, so the men were unable to go out to fish. Wind, snow and hail beat down and froze all of the plants, roots and berries until there was no food left. The man prayed to the “Chief Above” asking him to take pity on the people. He then got in his canoe and paddled out into the bay, hoping to catch some fish to feed to his starving family and friends.

The Chief Above answered the young man's prayers by sending “Northwind” to capsize his canoe. The man drowned, leaving behind his widow and two sons. Through many hardships and privations, the widowed wife raised her two sons to be hard working, considerate and responsible young men. They became excellent hunters and fishermen. She also taught them the secrets of using the medicinal plants that grew in the forest. They became well known as “healers”. With their hard work, skill and generosity, the brothers helped the entire village to survive and prosper.

As they approached manhood, the brothers felt duty-bound to avenge their father's cruel death. So one day, they took their bows, and gathered up all their arrows. The oldest brother, Kweye'cen, was the strongest, so he went first. He shot an arrow straight up in the air. The arrow went so high that it stuck in the sky. Then he shot a second arrow. This one stuck in the end of the first arrow. Then he shot a third arrow which stuck into the second arrow, and so on, until all his arrows had been shot. Then the younger brother, Sck'ayec, took his turn, and shot all of his arrows, continuing to stick one into the previous one until a long rope was formed that reached all the way from the “Sky World” down to the earth. Now the brothers climbed this rope, up through the clouds and entered the “Land Above”. Once safely up the rope the brothers started walking toward the east in search of the dwelling place of the Chief Above. After walking for a long time, they saw campfire smoke coming from the direction in which they were headed. Soon they came upon two young women sitting by the fire, roasting camas bulbs. This was Skwesqq (Robin) and Kwiskws (Blue Jay). As the brothers approached, one girl turned to the other and said, “Do you hear someone approaching?” The other girl replied, “Yes. Hello, is anyone there? Would you like to share our freshly roasted camas bulbs?” The brothers realized the girls were blind. After sharing their meal, Sck'ayec went into the nearby forest and gathered the proper medicinal plants, which he applied to the girls' eyes, restoring their vision. Robin asked the brothers where they had come from and what were they doing so far from their home. Elder Brother answered, “We are seeking the “Highest Man” to avenge the cruel death he inflicted on our father.” Blue Jay exclaimed, “The one you seek is our father. You must be careful, as he is a cruel and malicious person.” Robin continued, “He treats us, his daughters, as if we were slaves. He made us blind by forcing us to look into the bright light he keeps in his house. My breast is burnt red from him making me work too close to his fire pit, and Blue Jay's head and hair are all charred black (this is why, to this day Robins have a red breast, and Blue Jays have a black head). The sisters looked at one another for confirmation, then Kwiskws said, “Because you have restored our vision, we will help you with your quest.”

The four companions travelled east until they came to a large stone house. The building glowed red from all the heat contained therein. Robin and Blue Jay warned the brothers to be careful when entering the house. The door was a large stone slab that slams shut. “When the door opens you must quickly jump in, or else you'll be crushed.”

The sisters entered the house carrying two buckets of cold water, while the brothers hid outside. Acting as though they were still blind, Robin pretended to trip, falling into Blue Jay, causing both buckets of water to spill into the fire pit. The house filled with thick clouds of steam. The brothers timed their entrance carefully so as not to be crushed by the stone door. Hidden by the clouds of steam, they rushed into the house and killed their enemy before he even knew he was under attack.

Having accomplished their goal, Kweye'cen and Sck'ayec decided to remain in the “Land Above” and marry the sisters, Kwiskws and Skwesqq. However, they still felt an obligation to the people of their home village. Elder Brother said, “I am stronger, so I will carry this large ball of light, and walk across the sky every day. This will provide warmth and light for the people below, and I will be called Sqwqway (the Sun).” Then Younger Brother said, “I will carry this smaller ball of light and walk across the sky each night, and I will be called Ceqtlqayc (the Moon).”

To this day, the brothers continue to walk across the sky each day and each night, keeping a watchful eye on the people in the village of Scqwe'yen (Sequim).

[Adapted by Dale Faulstich from a story told by Mrs. Robbie Davis in Klallam Folk Tales by Erna Gunther]

Background

The seven-member City Arts Advisory Commission (CAAC) was established by ordinance in April 2014. The Commission was created to advise the City on matters including, but not limited to:

1. Cultural and artistic endeavors and projects in which the city may become involved and to act as a representative of the community in such matters.
2. Encourage donations, grants and other support to further expand the arts and cultural services and programs available to citizens of Sequim and members of the Sequim community.
3. Coordinate and strengthen existing organizations in the field of art, and to develop cooperation with schools and regional and national art organizations.
4. Encourage, conduct, sponsor, or co-sponsor public programs to further the development and public awareness of, and interest in, the fine and performing arts.
5. Review and make recommendations on all works of art acquired by the City, whether through purchase, donation or loan.
6. Assist the City in the preparation of planning documents including guidelines, master plans and strategic planning documents related to public art and the public awareness of the visual arts within the City.
7. To operate under policies and procedures as approved by the City Council.
8. To take such other actions as the City Council may direct from time to time.

Annual Planning Retreat Held

CAAC recently met to review their mission, vision and goals. CAAC has been in existence for 2 years now and has evolved since its creation. Programs and projects have been implemented with several still being developed. Based on discussions taking place during this year's planning event, revisions were made to the Vision, Mission and Goals for the CAAC.

CAAC's initial mission statement was "To advise the City Council on all matters affecting the beauty and culture of the greater community of Sequim." The former Vision was "To foster public awareness, interest and participation in artistic and cultural activities." CAAC has developed programs and supported activities the last two years and has evolved since their creation. The new Mission and Vision statements encompass a broader perspective.

Mission

To encourage, support and facilitate various forms of artistic and cultural activities within the greater Sequim community.

Vision

A welcoming, diverse and exciting cultural community.

Goals

1. Explore new and innovative programming

- Artist presentation at First Friday events
- Music in the Plaza
- Amateur artists
- Recyclable art fashion show (Sharon and Karen)



Kids' Parade during Irrigation Festival 2015

- Flash mob
- Art-off (Liz)
- CAN-instruction
- Mural Art
- Art House

2. Research and develop funding opportunities

- Go Fund Me Page
- Money-sharing?
- Grants
- Raffles

3. Increase public awareness of the fine and performing arts and City Arts

Advisory Commission

- Presentations at service groups and chamber
- Slide show of events
- Increase the arts/cultural communities' participation in the City's community calendar
- Elevator cards
- Create e-blast newsletter re CAAC and its activities

4. Develop and nurture partnerships

- Include local businesses and organizations on the invitee lists
- Peninsula College
- Audubon Society/River Center
- Blue Whole / Galleries
- Schools

The Year in Review

In 2015, CAAC held two community forums with the arts community to obtain their ideas about arts and cultural issues in the community. The first meeting was to introduce the Arts Commission to the community as well as create awareness of its existence, purpose and plans.

The second meeting was held to gain insight into the arts community's ideas of what does/does not work in Sequim in relation to arts/culture. The attendees felt that there is a lot of community support for activities and events whether it is funding or volunteers. Children's events and free, inclusive events are popular. They also felt there is a need for more public art or venues for artistic activities. Lack of funding is a common problem.

Attendees provided ideas on events or activities they would like to see added to Sequim's art experience. The suggestions included:

- Art groups working together
- Film festival
- More outdoor music
- Chamber music festival and performances
- "Circus" events
- Ballet festival
- Art on the Peninsula

- Plein Air type event
- Street performances and events
- More public art – temporary and permanent
- Blend agriculture and art
- Encourage “audience” participation
- Cultural heritage art
- Remember food is “art” – help promote attendance
- Cultural lecture series
- Flash mobs and sing alongs
- Walking tour with murals or physical signs and public art map
- Series of workshops
- Water themed events



A flash mob performs in Okinawa, Japan.

CAAC is incorporating some of these ideas into their programming as they move forward in planning events and activities for the community.

Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe Donation



The Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe donated a 30-foot totem pole, valued at \$150,000, for the new Civic Center.

The totem pole was designed by artist and carver Dale Faulstich, who retired in 2015. The totem was produced with his carvers Bud Turner, Tyler Faulstich and Tribal citizen Dusty Humphries.

The totem is carved from a 900 year old, peeled Western Red Cedar log and represents the story “Why the Sun Always Shines in Sequim” adapted by Faulstich in a story told by Mrs. Robbie Davis in Klallam Folk Tales by Erna Gunther.

Rotating Art Exhibits

The opening of the new Civic Center in May 2015 created the opportunity to have a rotating art exhibit in the lobby. The first exhibit took place May through December 2015. The theme of “What Sequim Means to Me” was well received and created excitement about things to come with the new Civic Center.



Artists who participated in the 2015 inaugural art exhibit



Thank you to the 16 artists who participated in the inaugural exhibit.

Artist	Name of Artwork	Size	Media
Nancy Hofmann	Lighthouse Tower	20x16	Acrylic
Tuttie Peetz	Soaring High	18x10	Wood
Ross Hamilton	Blue Mountain Winter	20x24	Photography
Lyn Smith	The Dungeness Lighthouse	17x21	Watercolor
Eva Kozun	"Freedom" (Salmon)	9x18	Ceramic/stoneware sculpture
Gina Cox	A Walk in the Park	20x30	Metal Print
Valerie Henschel	Lavender Bundles	4x6 ratio	Photography
Greywolf Photography	Slack Tide: Dungeness Spit	24x36	Photography
Alan Halfhill	Sunset	8x10	Photography
Patricia Oden	Great Colors in Sequim	47x47	Hand-dyed textiles
Tim Oneill	Chair in Lavender	20x24	Photography
Alex Kruckeberg	Manis Mastodon	11x14	Acrylic
Marilynn Evans	John Wayne Marina	21-1/2 x 17-1/2	Digital Art
Ryoko Toyama	At Jamestown Beach 2		
Karen Rozbicki Stringer	Living in the Moment	16x20	Photography
Karen Rozbicki Stringer	Dandy Afternoon Glow	16x20	Photography

Historical display



The first display of historic photos was completed in 2015. CAAC intends to create two or three additional collages of historic photos to line the stairwell.

This first display depicts the corner of Sequim Avenue and Washington Street. This has always seen a hub of activity as the City's major intersection.

Thank you to Patsy Mattingley and Steven Humphrey for their work in developing this display. Thank you to the Museum & Arts Center for their contribution of pictures.

Holiday Tree



A new tradition began in 2015 with the addition of a holiday tree in the Civic Center lobby.

Each year fourth grade students are invited to create an ornament for the tree based on an established theme. The theme for this year's tree is "Nature's Creatures on the Olympic Peninsula."



December's First Friday event introduced the inaugural holiday tree and its ornaments. The Sunshine Generation provided entertainment for attendees.

Public Art Acquisition

An art glass sculpture was donated to the City of Sequim in 2015. The creation of this beautiful art work was made possible through the generosity of the Bobbi Burkett family members and friends, who donated nearly \$12,000 to the Olympic View Community Foundation in Sequim over the course of two years on behalf of the Bobbi Burkett Memorial Fund.

Seattle Glassblowing Studio in Seattle created this standing art glass sculpture which embodies the colors and light found in the natural beauty surrounding Sequim and the Olympic Peninsula, which Bobbi dearly loved. A collaborative design, this installation was created by Bob Rigg, Cyrena Stefano and Cliff Goodman, a talented team of artists at Seattle Glassblowing Studio.



Other Events/Activities



Sequim Ballet entertained audiences with “Peter and the Wolf” on the Civic Center plaza. The plaza creates the perfect venue for these types of activities. We would like to encourage this type of activity on a regular basis.

People brought their chairs and enjoyed an afternoon of entertainment. Thank you to Sequim Ballet!



Music in the Park celebrated its 10th year in 2015. This summer concert series takes place each Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. beginning June 28 and ending August 30, 2016. July 26 will feature the ever-popular karaoke contest. Prizes will be awarded to the top 3 performers.



2015 Karaoke Winner

Future Events in the Works

2016 will see the placement of the historical bell, Centennial tiles and installation of art on the wall behind the City Council dais in the council chambers.

A budget cover contest is scheduled for July 2016. Middle school students are encouraged to submit their artwork depicting “*What Sequim Means to Me.*” The artwork will be displayed in the Civic Center and the public will vote for their favorite art which will be featured in the City of Sequim’s 2017 budget.

December will also include the holiday tree with themed ornaments decorated by fourth grade students.

Other events or activities that are planned include:

- ◆ A trashion show (September or October 2017)

Design and make trashion fashion out of everyday materials that would otherwise end up in the trash or recycling bin. Then strut your design down the runway (either you or a friend) in style- in front of lights, music, and hundreds of adoring fans.

- ◆ Quarterly art exhibits

3rd Quarter 2016	All Things Purple
4 th Quarter 2016	Fibre Art
1 st Quarter (Jan-Mar)	All Things Glass
April	Peeps Show
2 nd Quarter (May 19-June 30)	Piecing Together a Changing Planet
3 rd Quarter	“Found” objects
4 th Quarter	To be determined

- ◆ Keying Around (July)

Painted pianos will be placed at locations throughout the city during the month of July for people to sit down, play, and enjoy. Sponsors are needed to help cover the costs of artistic supplies, moving, and tuning of the pianos.

Special performances will also be scheduled with various pianists. Sponsors are still needed to help pay for pianos and performers.

- ◆ Souper Bowl

This program is still in the design phase but is something being considered for 2017.

- ◆ Plaza entertainment (Summer event)

Looking for performers to entertain in the Civic Center plaza summer of 2016 and 2017.

- ◆ The big chair (Builder needed)

This is an inexpensive and creative way to create meaningful moments. Once built, the public is invited to take and post their pictures sitting on “The Chair.”



- ◆ “How Tall This Fall” display (Builder needed)



Once a design is determined, this structure will be built and painted. In the fall it will be placed in the Civic Center plaza. The year will be changed on an annual basis. It is the hope that each fall people will come and take their picture with the “How Tall This Fall” sign.

This could become a fun, family tradition.

- ◆ A “Peeps” show (April 2017)



A Seattle entry inspired by the book
"The Boys in the Boat."

This will be an exhibit that is created using the marshmallow candies known as "peeps."

It will take place during the month of April. The public will be invited to vote for their "peeps of choice."

Thank you to the City Arts Advisory Commission for their work in developing this annual report.

Report approved this 22nd day of June, 2016.

2015 Committee Members

*Natalie Andrzejewski
Eileen Cummings
Sharon Delabarre
Lizbeth Harper
Joanna Hays
Steven Humphrey
Patsy Mattingley*

2015 Council Liaison

Candace Pratt, Mayor

Staff Liaison

Karen Kuznek-Reese, City Clerk