



AAPAC

ANN ARBOR PUBLIC ART COMMISSION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**AAPAC PLANS INNOVATIVE STORM WATER ART INSTALLATIONS
AT ANN ARBOR MUNICIPAL CENTER**

World renowned artist Herbert Dreiseitl invited to submit design proposal.

ANN ARBOR, Mich., Feb. 3, 2009 — In December, AAPAC Chair, Margaret Parker, presented the Ann Arbor Public Art Commission's (AAPAC) 2009 Annual Public Art Plan to City Council. One of AAPAC's 2009 priorities includes the installation of interior and exterior artwork at the Ann Arbor Municipal Center.

In 2008, AAPAC convened the Public Art Task Force for the Municipal Center with the goal of prioritizing art sites and projects at the Municipal Center. The Task Force designated the rain garden, the centerpiece of the LEED certified building, as the highest public art priority because this civic location will be highly visible to the general public. The Task Force then researched examples of water-related art projects from around the country that would make the conservation and retention of rain water interesting, accessible, educational, and beautiful to the public.

Herbert Dreiseitl is a world renowned artist and urban planner specializing in the integration of storm water in public art. In September 2008, he visited Ann Arbor during a speaking tour that excited public interest in the public art possibilities related to water and land use. During his visit, the Public Art Task Force met with him to discuss the Ann Arbor Municipal Center rain garden as one of several high priority AAPAC projects.

“Herbert Dreiseitl has many years of experience with large public projects and his breadth of work is very impressive as is his international reputation,” said AAPAC Chair

Margaret Parker. “He also is known for working with local builders and architects, which is important to AAPAC as well as the Municipal Center architectural team.”

Dreiseitl has been invited by AAPAC to propose a public art project for the Municipal Center rain garden that will manage the storm water gathered from the building site but also become a landmark for the new Municipal Center. He has expressed interest in this commission and will submit a proposal to AAPAC following the Ann Arbor Municipal Center maximum guaranteed construction cost approval by City Council on February 2.

AAPAC Funding

- City of Ann Arbor: Large capital improvement projects shall include funds for public art equal to 1 percent of the construction costs.
- Downtown Development Authority: 1 percent of capital improvement projects to be reserved for public art projects installed within the boundaries of the DDA.
- Public Art Fund: Public and private contributions.
- Schools and libraries are not included in the percent funding because they have separate budgets.

Funds generated by capital projects do not have to be used on those sites, but projects that use those funds need to relate to the theme of the funding. Small funds may be pooled to create large projects with related themes.

For more information about the Ann Arbor Public Art Commission, visit www.annarborpublicart.org. Examples of Herbert Dreiseitl’s work can be viewed at www.dreiseitl.de.

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