The Fife Public Arts Commission is to identify and actively encourage the development and sustainability of the arts in the City by serving as the City’s primary resource in matters of public art and culture.

The City of Fife recognizes that support for artists and arts organizations, development and stewardship of public art, arts education, and cultural development are public necessities; as such, they are essential for the continuing growth and development of Fife’s citizens, economy and quality of life. The Commission was established in 2011.

Meetings

5:30 p.m.
2nd Tuesday of every month
Fife City Hall
Puyallup Meeting Room
5411 23rd Street E
Fife, WA 98424

Meetings are open to the public. Please contact the Arts Program office to confirm meeting schedule.
(253) 922-2489 | arts@cityoffife.org

Mission

Historic Influences

- Oakwood Dairy 1935

Experience Art & History in the City of Fife

- Hard-working and industrious Scandinavian, Swiss, German and Italian immigrants flocked to Fife and vicinity during a period of intense immigration to the United States. Among them was Carl Mettler from Switzerland, who founded the region’s first dairy in 1889 with 300 cows.

- Heishiro Mihara quit his restaurant job in Tacoma in 1897. He leased a few acres from Puyallup Tribal members Mary Charley and William McShill. He started a successful truck farm. Others joined him. By 1910, there were 69 Japanese immigrant families in the area.

- Fife’s original inhabitants, represented by the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, continue to be a player in the social, educational, political and economic development of the South Sound.

- Fife Memorial Fountain
  Like the industrious agrarian community it once served, this beloved area landmark had both practical and decorative uses.

- Tribal Stone Monument
  This 1929 stone monument acknowledges the generosity and critical influence of two Puyallup Tribal leaders in our community’s early history.

- First Commercial Bulb Farm Plaque
  When George Lawler planted 2,000 bulbs on five muddy acres, he inspired an industry and a famous local spring parade!

- Dacca Barn
  Celebrations and events are booked in farmer and civic leader Louis Dacca’s former barn, which anchors adjacent Dacca Field and Fife History Museum.

- Poodle Dog Restaurant
  There was no City Hall in 1957 when Fife’s City Council conducted city business in this iconic local diner.

Meetings

Angela Barreto
Resident

Karen Bredberg
Arts Teacher

Lisa Daniel
Business Community Member

Marshall Kalerak
Business Community Member

Members

Fife Public Arts Commission

Fife Public Arts Commission

Fife Public Arts Commission

Fife Public Arts Commission

Find out how to join the commission and learn more about public art in Fife:
www.cityoffife.org/publicart

Historical Sites

Fife’s history begins well before its inception in 1957.

- A
  Fife Memorial Fountain

- B
  Tribal Stone Monument

- C
  First Commercial Bulb Farm Plaque

- D
  Dacca Barn

- E
  Poodle Dog Restaurant
Valley Roundelay
Lisa Kinoshita, 2013
Resin and Mixed Media
Fife City Hall | 5411 23rd Street E.
This artwork is an homage to the rich agricultural history of Fife and the immigrants who settled here. It is an architectural study inspired by the traditional American barn.

Aquatic Center Mural
Michiko Tanaka, 2017
Mural
Fife Aquatic Center | 5410 20th Street E.
Popular Pacific Northwest muralist Michiko Tanaka used oceanic themes for this mural at the Fife Aquatic Center. The important community space teaches water safety, swim lessons and fun classes for people across the South Sound.

Dream Followers
Julie Watts, 2013
Photography on Steel Plates
Fife City Hall | 5411 23rd Street E.
Individual portraits were chosen from social media posts and in-person Chamber of Commerce event photos. Selected for their passion, drive, focus and unparalleled vision toward achieving a particular goal, each one shows uncommon dedication.

Opulence
Savy Jane, 2013
Mural
Fife City Hall | 5411 23rd Street E.
The vibrant colors and agricultural scene show off Fife’s diverse and bountiful history.

The Throne
Nicky Falkenhayn, 2013
Cor-Ten Steel & Stacked Glass
Fountain Memorial Park | 2001 54th Avenue
The Throne is a royal seat celebrating the meeting of water, sky and earth. With seats in three different sizes, it invites children and adults alike to sit, relax and use it as a photo opportunity.

Whispering Bird
Marion-Lea Jamieson, 2013
Steel with Sealed Rust Patina
Fife Pierce County Library | 6622 20th Street E.
Explore themes of myth and animal life with this steel sculpture. The piece also focuses on storytelling and how we share experience through art.

Wheels of Progress
Eric Holdener, 2013
Recycled Steel
Fife Historical Museum | 2820 54th Avenue E.
This industrial sculpture depicts Fife’s rich agricultural history by using a series of wheels in balance—steel wheels and steel rails.

Wedge Park Murals
Community Members, 2009
Mural
Wedge Park | 5920 Valley Avenue E.
Community members painted bright underwater scenes along Wedge Park to beautify the playground and community area. The murals connect to the nearby South Sound waterways.

Daffodils
Tommy Richie and Mr. J. Stephens, 2018
Steel and Rebar
Centennial Park | 5411 23rd Street E.
These daffodils were created specifically for Centennial Park and represent the first daffodil farms in Fife. Look for the daffodils among the flower beds, mixing nature and art.

Flour Bed
Sara Ybarra Lopez, 2009
Cast Aluminum
Brookville Gardens | 6518 Valley Avenue E.
Wander the trails to find this striking sculpture. Themes of domesticity are explored through the form of a bed.

Martens Park Mural
Community Members, 2009
Mural
Martens Park | 5920 Valley Avenue E.
Community members painted bright underwater scenes along Martens Park to beautify the playground and community area. The murals connect to the nearby South Sound waterways.

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