



City of Austin
Art in Public Places - Cultural Arts Division
Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office



For Immediate Release: May 27, 2009
Contact: Megan Crigger, Art in Public Places Administrator, (512) 974-9312

Art in Public Places unveils puzzling new artwork at the North Village Branch Library

Library Grand Opening: Saturday, May 30, 2009; 9:00am – noon

Austin, TX– The City of Austin Art in Public Places (AIPP) program announces the addition of two new public artworks by **Austin glass artist, Kathleen Ash**, to the city's permanent art collection. These works will be unveiled at the Grand Opening of the new **North Village Branch Library at 2505 Steck Avenue** near the corner of Burnet Road and Steck Avenue.

The City commissioned artist **Kathleen Ash**, through the Art in Public Places program, which allocates 2% of eligible capital improvement project budgets to artwork, to create permanent public art for the North Village Branch Library. The artist worked with the building architects to integrate her artwork designs into the architecture of the building and to create work that will be engaging to library patrons. Ash says about the work “I want the viewer (especially the young) to wonder and question and be curious about the journey that we travel when we open a book.”

Read More Books is a mobile of large laminated glass letters suspended by cables in the library's “living room.” These letters, comprised of translucent white glass which emulates parchment, are inscribed with quotes from literature. The artist hopes that library patrons will guess who the authors are. The letters themselves also form an anagram. If people cannot guess the source of the quotes or the anagram, a legend is available at the library.

Sea of Knowledge is part of a window wall in the library browsing area, and uses colorful laminated glass to depict children



Read More Books, laminated glass mobile by Kathleen Ash



Sea of Knowledge, laminated glass window wall by Kathleen Ash

sailing on open books over an ocean of letters heading towards an island of discovery.

Kathleen Ash Kathleen Ash is a well-known artist who has been working with glass at Studio K in Austin for more than 30 years. She specializes in glass for architecture, lighting, and limited production art glass. Her goal is to create work which maintains a functional and aesthetic value over many years. Always intrigued by the process, Kathleen enjoys the technical challenges of working with glass.

For photographs or more information about Austin's Art in Public Places program visit, www.cityofaustin.org/aipp or contact Megan Crigger, Administrator, at 974-9312.

The City of Austin's Art in Public Places acquires and maintains works of art for City facilities and parks through commissions, donations and loans for the cultural enrichment of Austin's community. AIPP is part of the Cultural Arts Division within the City of Austin's Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office.

###