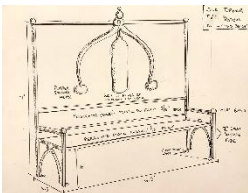


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For immediate release**Acclaimed sculptor, Jud Turner works to create new Musical Bench
for Tualatin Valley Creates**

Jud Turner working in his studio, Eugene, OR.
Photos supplied by artist.



Winning design by Jud Turner, "Wishing Bench" to be installed in downtown Forest Grove.

For more than 25 years the Oregon-based large-scale artist, Jud Turner has been creating one-of-a-kind sculptures and public installations designed to engage the viewer's senses. Turner recently shared that his approach to public art is to imagine the wide variety of people who will encounter his sculptures, particularly people who wouldn't typically go to a traditional gallery, and create a work which makes them feel engaged and connected. He continued, "I want my work to be visually elegant, cognitively engaging, and fun!"

Jud Turner is among four sculptors recently selected for Tualatin Valley Creates' (TVC) new public art project, Musical Benches Public Art Collection. The collection is funded by capital support from Washington County and is being organized with the help of community stakeholders throughout the region. Turner's awarded design is called "The Wishing Bench". It incorporates a large cylinder bell, which is rung by pulling or pushing an attached wishbone shaped mechanism with rubber mallets attached to both ends. The mallets will strike the bell, swaying back and forth, striking it with increasingly less force as the pendulum motion of the wishbone reduces until it is stationary again. The gradual reduction in the chiming sound is meant to create a calming sense of peace in the viewer, and invite them to "make a wish" on the bell.

TVC Director, Raziah Roushan shared that the premise behind the new Musical Benches are that they are "functional art". Roushan continued that "after the four artists' preliminary designs were approved by a jury, the artists were further encouraged to exaggerate their own style, be dynamic, and keep in the forefront of their minds that this collection is truly for the community to observe, sit on and play with." Roushan said "It is easy to see why the jury chose Turner's design. The wishbone concept is timeless for all ages from all walks of life."

"I am excited about the opportunity to create a Musical Bench for the TVC project," said Turner, "and am particularly interested in engaging the public through the interactive nature of the sculpture." Turner's "The Wishing Bench" is scheduled to be installed in the heart of Forest Grove, Oregon this coming Fall. Visit www.tvcreates.org/musical-benches/ to see progress photos from each artist's studio and to learn more.

About Tualatin Valley Creates

Tualatin Valley Creates is the leading arts service organization for Washington County, Oregon. TVC drives the development of inclusive, resilient, creative communities using arts, culture, heritage, and humanities by increasing visibility for community engagement opportunities and by bridging resources needed to support people working in the local creative industries. Visit www.tvcreates.org to learn more.

About Forest Grove Public Art Commission

The Public Arts Commission advises the Forest Grove City Council and makes recommendations regarding policies and programs that would enhance and encourage the planning, placement and maintenance of public displays of art in locations open to the public within the community. The Commission is comprised of citizens who advocate for community art in all forms. It was established in 2006 with the belief that the community would benefit from a group whose purpose is to foster relationships between arts organizations, individual artists and community members. Art Commission strives to honor what we treasure from our past, what we celebrate in our vibrant present and what we imagine for our future. Mission: Art Belongs Everywhere and to Everyone.

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