

# Portland's Public Art Shines at National Conference

[information incorporated from the Regional Arts & Culture Council web page]



*The Knowledge*, by Harrell Fletcher

Three works of public art in Portland, two of which are at PSU, are among the nation's best from 2010, according to Americans for the Arts (AFTA), the country's leading arts service organization. More than 400 nominations were submitted to AFTA for consideration. The winning artists and commissioning organizations will receive letters of recognition. These projects were among 47 outstanding public artworks cited at AFTA's Public Art Preconference in San Diego on June 16, 2011.

Ann Gooley Mai, Project Manager, indicates that the PSU projects were some of the more recent innovative ones on campus due to their unique nature, scope and installation requirements. The collaboration of individuals and organizations involved, including the stakeholders, funding agencies, artists and their teams, consultants, contractors, PSU staff and others, resulted in the successful completion of these large scale projects. They are now enjoyed by many people living, working and passing through campus on a daily basis. In summary, to paraphrase the project experience relayed by one of the artists, Fernanda D'Agostino: "It was a labor of love, and kudos to PSU."

The PSU pieces are:

- Harrell Fletcher's mural, *The Knowledge*, at Portland State University's Ondine Building on the 5<sup>th</sup> Street side, was partially funded by RACC's public art mural program, with additional funding from Portland Development Commission, TriMet and Portland State University. The 127'x20' mural has improved the aesthetics of the surrounding area – which is dotted with residential apartments, , University residence halls, small businesses, cafes and restaurants – by

adding vibrant color and graphics that promote learning in a university setting. As a side benefit, the mural also discourages graffiti in the area. More online at <http://bit.ly/jgJZgo>.  
Estimated cost of the project is \$35,000.

•Intellectual Ecosystem, a permanent video project at PSU's Academic & Student Recreation Center (ASRC), was produced and directed by Fernanda D'Agostino and funded by Oregon's 1% for Public Art Program. This public artwork involves a projection onto the glass façade of the PSU Academic and Student Recreation Center (ASRC) at SW 5th and Montgomery, and may be viewed from dusk to 11:00 pm nightly. The video work uses imagery of PSU student performances, faculty work, and archival holdings that were researched and filmed over a one year period.

Video: <http://vimeo.com/25629679>.

Estimated cost of the project is \$208,000.

This piece of art is not located at PSU:

•Portland Acupuncture Project by Adam Kuby, partially funded by RACC's in situ PORTLAND program\*. This six-month long project explored the interface between art, regional planning, traditional Chinese medicine and the health of a city. A 35' tall acupuncture needle moved around the city to ten different locations around the Portland area from April to October, 2010. More online at [www.acuportland.org](http://www.acuportland.org) (\* additional funding partners listed on the project website).

Estimated cost of the project is \$186,945.

PSU Project Manager: Ann Mai

PSU Project Support:

Facilities Carpentry Staff

Facilities Electrical Crew

PSU Telecommunications Dept. and Instructional Technology Services

PSU Faculty

Installers/Contractors/Artists:

“Knowledge” Mural: Tube Art; printers and installers of the mural

Ted Savinar, art consultant for the project

Harrell Fletcher, artist who created the mural with input from the PSU

community

ASRC Video: Delta Audio Visual, engineering and audio visual programming, design and system

Fernanda D'Agostino, Executive Producer and Director, Editor and Animator  
Valerie Otani, Co-Producer

Harry Dawson, Director of Photography

Plus other consulting artists who worked directly with Fernanda on this project

Please send any feedback on these projects to [maia@pdx.edu](mailto:maia@pdx.edu)

Thank You!

