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Record Number of Voters Cast Ballots For 2020 People’s Choice Award

Lake Oswego, Oregon- Arts Council of Lake Oswego (ACLO) is thrilled to announce the winner of the 2020 People’s Choice Award, Emerald Jade Prayer Wheel, by local artist, Rick True. Each year a select number of sculptures are nominated from the rotating exhibition by a committee made up of civic leaders, artists, and residents. The sculpture with the most votes becomes a part of the City’s award-winning public art collection and is enjoyed by citizens and visitors for years to come.

This year the Arts Council gathered a record number of votes, and an overwhelming amount for Mr. True’s piece. People living or working in Lake Oswego were eligible. Voting was collected through the ACLO website and mailed-in from ballots distributed through the Lake Oswego Review.

The sculpture is currently on view at B Avenue and 2nd Street, and was installed last year as part of the 2019-21 Gallery Without Walls rotating public art program. It will be located there for another year until it finds a permanent home in the collection in the summer of 2021. Emerald Jade Prayer Wheel is made from copper and steel and was influenced by the BBC series “Life,” in particular, “Plants” episode from 2009. The artist loves to work with nature and the inspiration were plant seeds and pods that tumble and twirl to restart life. Another unique feature of this piece is that it is kinetic (art that contains movement). Various parts of the sculpture rotate clockwise or counterclockwise allowing some elements to speed up while others slow down creating a magical effect.
“Each year the People’s Choice award is a testament to the City of Lake Oswego and its ongoing support to beautifying its public spaces and city streets,” said Nicole Nathan, Arts Council of Lake Oswego’s Executive Director. “We are thrilled to have Emerald Jade Prayer Wheel a part of the permanent collection. It’s a picturesque piece that grabs the attention of viewers due to the moving parts and statuesque appearance. Rick will be honored in September at our Gallery Without Walls Celebration. We are unsure of what form the celebration may be at this time due to COVID, so stay tuned and check our website as details emerge.”

Gallery Without Walls is celebrating its 20th year in 2020. The program has evolved to include 30 on loan works and over 50 permanent sculptures with a total of 80 pieces throughout the City by artists of local, regional, and international acclaim. The People’s Choice winner will be highlighted at the Gallery Without Walls Celebration September 12, 2020 – format to be determined based on COVID regulations and restrictions.

For more information on the artist, Rick True visit, http://ricktrue.com/about.

About the Arts Council of Lake Oswego: The Arts Council of Lake Oswego works to ensure that the arts are an integral part of life in our community, now and into the future. The Arts Council is located at 41B Avenue, Lake Oswego, OR 97034, and is a non-profit organization. For more information visit www.arts councililo.org or call 503-675-3738.

Photos by Mario Gallucci – Mario Gallucci Photography