



City of Tigard Press Release

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New Public Mural Paints a Picture of Tigard's Rich History

What: *A Walk Through Time* (public mural)

Who: City of Tigard, Portland Street Art Alliance and artist Jeremy Nichols

When: July 8-15, 2019

Where: 12553 SW Main Street, Tigard, OR 97223

Work is set to begin on a public mural by professional artist Jeremy Nichols in Downtown Tigard. The mural, entitled *A Walk Through Time*, will be an interwoven tapestry of Tigard's history and culture along the Fanno Creek corridor.

Working with local historian, Sean Garvey, and ecology specialists in the city, Nichols' design incorporates images from Tigard's past. The mural depicts a member of the Kalapuya tribe (the indigenous inhabitants of the area) alongside native flora and fauna, including Red-tailed Hawk, Western Painted Turtle, Great Blue Heron and Oregon Iris and Camas flowers. Nichols hopes that the mural will raise awareness about the original inhabitants of the Tigard area, as well as the local ecosystem. "It is important to me to create a mural that will stay relevant and be enjoyed by generations to come. I wanted to create a design that steps away from the norms of 'traditional cultural' murals and create a design with a more contemporary approach that is equally informative and significant," says Jeremy Nichols, the artist designing and painting the mural.

Located at 12553 SW Main Street, the mural will be directly adjacent to the popular Fanno Creek multi-use trail on the recently renovated building home to several new Downtown Tigard businesses including Frameabl, Versus Board Games and Senet Game Bar. Building upon previous arts initiatives led by the City of Tigard and non-profit Tigard Downtown Alliance the mural will aid in the ongoing revitalization of downtown Tigard. Dylan Dekay-Bemis, the City of Tigard's Economic Development Coordinator, believes the project will "increase access to art in Tigard, help improve walkability in downtown and draw attention to the great local businesses housed within the building where the mural will be located."

In recent years, art initiatives have driven commercial success and interest in Downtown Tigard, including the annual Downtown Art Walk event, gateway art sculptures by artist Brian Borrello, an Art on Loan program that places art leased from local artists in locations around downtown, and the award-winning SubUrban street art exhibition.

Portland based non-profit Portland Street Art Alliance (PSAA) facilitated the commissioning of Jeremy Nichols for the City of Tigard and will continue to assist the City in managing this mural project. PSAA Executive Director Tiffany Conklin explains that “the quality of our shared public spaces speaks volumes about what we, as a society, believe to be important. Public art projects like *A Walk Through Time* not only bring more cultural vibrancy and interest to a place, but ensure that everyone has the opportunity to experience art in their everyday lives.”

A Walk Through Time is funded through the City of Tigard’s Lighter, Quicker, Cheaper (LQC) program. LQC projects are inexpensive but impactful actions that improve walkability, connectivity and health in Tigard.

Project Partners:

Jeremy Nichols, a Portland-based artist who has painted over 100 murals in cities worldwide, including Denver, Los Angeles, Miami, Portland, and Tokyo.

More info: <https://www.plasticbirdie.com/>

Portland Street Art Alliance (PSAA), a non-profit organization and network of advocates and artists who manage public art projects in the pacific northwest. PSAA has completed over 60 public and private art projects and commissions since 2012. *A Walk Through Time* will be the first project PSAA has worked on with a municipality.

More info: <http://www.pdxstreetart.org/>

Photos below



Mural location



A Walk Through Time mural design concept by artist Jeremy Nichols