

Arts and Aesthetics Committee 2016-17 Annual Report

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Our committee has completed several project aimed at improving the aesthetics and way finding for public spaces in the main church. The Foyer, Jackson Chapel, and Redman Room have been painted and redecorated. We have hung art in these areas that are connected with the main purposes of these spaces. The stained glass dove is the main feature in the Foyer and is meant as a welcoming image and one that reflects the spirit of the Congregation. In the Jackson Chapel, we hung the works by Ben Shahn which were given to UUAA in gratitude for contributions from the Jackson Fund. The portraits of the Jacksons are hung near these works. We also reorganized the portraits of Senior Ministers. They are displayed in chronological order and labeled. In the Redman Room, we hung a collection of photos depicting UU's living the principles as well as a portrait of Rev. Redman. Orientation and general information meetings for visitors are held in the Redman Room.

We have created and hung way-finding signs in the foyer and maps of rooms in the SGD wing.

The Zimbabwe Artists Project has been going on during the month of April. We learned of this project through the Portland UU Congregation. We displayed art produced by people from the town of Weya, Zimbabwe. Proceeds from the sale of art go to the nonprofit and pay for school fees, health services, fertilizer and other critical services needed by the people of Weya.

In the future, we look forward to organizing art displays by UU artists. Members of the Congregation who would like to display their art should contact the Arts and Aesthetics Committee. The UUAA policy on the sale of art by members or friends of the Congregation is that 50% of the proceeds go to the Congregation and 50% to the artist.