

Ballston BID—Public Displays of Innovation

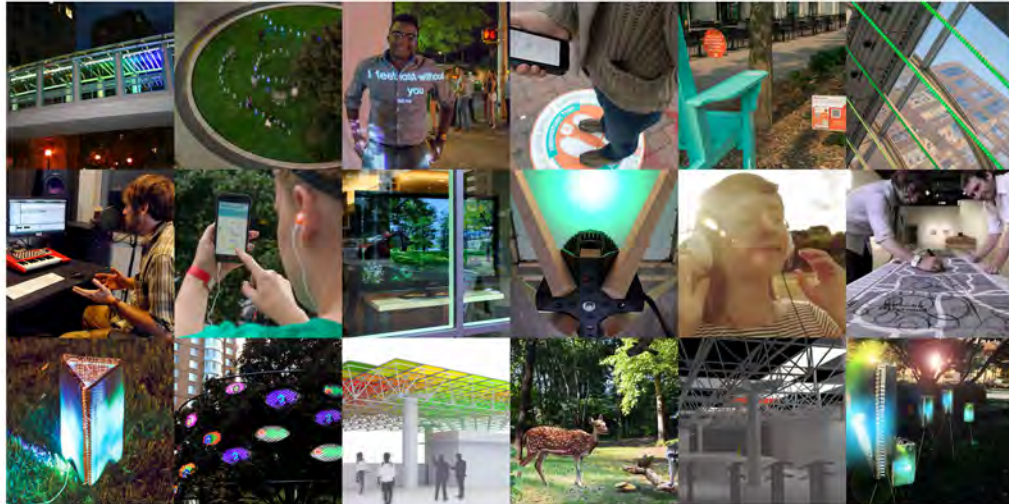
Synopsis Ballston Business Improvement District (Ballston BID) is an organization that promotes investment and interest in the Ballston community in Arlington, Virginia. Its mission is to enhance Ballston's stature as a center of research, innovation, science, and technology, and to showcase the area as a vibrant urban destination for business, education, entertainment, and living.

Recently Ballston BID launched a project aimed at reinforcing Ballston's identity as a hub of creativity and artistic vision. The "Public Displays of Innovation" series provided an opportunity for a select number of area artists to create an art installation in public areas throughout Ballston. Each of the works experimented with light and sound technology and/or incorporated interactivity as an important component of the experience.

To chronicle the development process and showcase the vision of the nine art installations in the series, Ballston BID engaged The Design Channel to create an exhibit for display in the "Works in Progress" gallery at the Artisphere, Arlington's visual and performing arts venue.

Creative The design we created for the Artisphere exhibit consisted of wall-mounted panels, each of which showcased an individual art installation. Each panel featured a presentation of various components of the work in different stages of completion as well as information about the artists and the expression or experience they were shaping.

In addition, we interviewed the artists and coordinated the development of a video in which they further articulated the ideas behind their work. The video was also incorporated into the Artisphere exhibit.



PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF INNOVATION

Public Displays of Innovation is the ongoing public art initiative of the Ballston Business Improvement District (BBID).

The goals of the initiative are to:

- Create an ongoing series of attractions that enhance Ballston's stature as a center of research, innovation, science and technology.
- Support Ballston's character as a vibrant, walkable, urban community that is a primary destination for business, education, entertainment and living.
- Provide artists and innovators with an opportunity to apply their research interests and talents to projects that enliven the public realm.
- Allow for experimentation with multiple modes and emerging media in the public realm.

This year, the initiative presented six site-specific temporary works and two permanent digital sound artworks that people can interact with as they walk around Ballston. Also, BBID is developing a long-term, interactive light installation for the Metro station canopy.

In the fall of 2013, BBID issued an open call that invited artists around the region to submit proposals, and a committee of curators and designers selected the projects that would be presented. BBID provided funding, logistical support and marketing for the projects, and a half-dozen property owners made their sites available for the installations.

PROJECT DIRECTOR

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SELECTION COMMITTEE

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PARTICIPATE

Eyes of Ballston

Community members designed colorful, illuminated eyes that will be placed throughout Ballston Park in Arlington, Virginia.

These eyes will share your ability to see and imagine.



The project was designed by the artist duo, [names], who were inspired by the vibrant colors of the eyes and the idea of sharing their vision with the community. The eyes are made of a durable material and are designed to be weather-resistant. They are placed in various locations throughout the park, including near the playground, the picnic area, and the walking paths. The eyes are illuminated at night, creating a beautiful display of light and color. The project was a success, and the eyes have become a popular attraction for visitors to the park.

ILLUMINATE

Axon Xylophone Bridge

Community members designed colorful, illuminated xylophone bridges that will be placed throughout Ballston Park in Arlington, Virginia.



The project was designed by the artist duo, [names], who were inspired by the vibrant colors of the xylophone and the idea of sharing their vision with the community. The xylophone bridges are made of a durable material and are designed to be weather-resistant. They are placed in various locations throughout the park, including near the playground, the picnic area, and the walking paths. The xylophone bridges are illuminated at night, creating a beautiful display of light and color. The project was a success, and the xylophone bridges have become a popular attraction for visitors to the park.

CLOUD

Community members designed colorful, illuminated clouds that will be placed throughout Ballston Park in Arlington, Virginia.



The project was designed by the artist duo, [names], who were inspired by the vibrant colors of the clouds and the idea of sharing their vision with the community. The clouds are made of a durable material and are designed to be weather-resistant. They are placed in various locations throughout the park, including near the playground, the picnic area, and the walking paths. The clouds are illuminated at night, creating a beautiful display of light and color. The project was a success, and the clouds have become a popular attraction for visitors to the park.

SOUNDSCAPE

Site: WA + FC (Ballston)

Community members designed colorful, illuminated soundscapes that will be placed throughout Ballston Park in Arlington, Virginia.



The project was designed by the artist duo, [names], who were inspired by the vibrant colors of the soundscapes and the idea of sharing their vision with the community. The soundscapes are made of a durable material and are designed to be weather-resistant. They are placed in various locations throughout the park, including near the playground, the picnic area, and the walking paths. The soundscapes are illuminated at night, creating a beautiful display of light and color. The project was a success, and the soundscapes have become a popular attraction for visitors to the park.



