

MOSCOW ARTS COMMISSION



Public Art Subcommittee

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Commission Members

Katherine Clancy (chair)
Donna Woolston

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Staff

Megan Cherry
Arts Program Manager
Britnee Christen
Administrative Specialist

Annual Projects

- ITC Sculpture Garden
- Vinyl Wraps

1% Public Art Plan Priorities (p.26 Public Art Masterplan)

- Downtown Streetscape
- Jackson and 6th
- South City Entry - Hwy 95
- Berman Creekside Park
- 1912 Center
- East City Park
- Paradise Path
- Friendship Square

Project locations for consideration in the next PAMP Update

- Moscow Police Station
- Third Street Bridge
- Hwy 8 Underpass
- Blackbird Station
- Moscow City Hall

Public Art Subcommittee

4th Tuesday of the Month

March 23, 2021

4:00 p.m.

Zoom

- Operational Updates:
 - Vinyl Wraps 2021
 - ITC Sculpture Garden 2021
- ITC Sculpture Garden Memorial Donation (see donor materials)
 - Project Description & Timeline
 - RFP or RFQ
- Public Art Master Plan
- Upcoming Meetings and Events
 - PA Regular Meeting: Tuesday, April 27, 2021



Latah County Human Rights Task Force
Attn: Joann Muneta, Chair (jmuneta@uidaho.edu)
P.O. Box 8613
Moscow ID 83843

Dec. 27, 2020

This is to nominate Andrew Thatcher Becker for the 2021 Rosa Parks Human Rights Achievement Award. Andrew was a powerful advocate for people with disabilities, and for strengthening a sense of community through communication and understanding. He lived his life with courage, compassion, and a spirit of inclusion, in accordance with criteria for this award.

Andrew was a teacher of human rights. He wrote a book about his life's journey as a person with a disability, intending it as an educational resource for others. He taught students from grade school to collegiate levels, the beauty school, and a CNA program. Lessons were interactive, and addressed the physical and emotional realities of living with a disability, the joys in his life, accomplishments and deficiencies in laws pertaining to accommodation, and resources to inform and enable others. He was a product of Idaho public schools, and fittingly enough, studied political science at the University of Idaho.

Andrew was a citizen activist, who went the extra mile to inform and persuade policymakers (including me). He was well-acquainted with laws related to human rights and the rights of people with disabilities. He was recruited for Governor Kempthorne's Task Force on Delivery of Services to People with Disabilities. Andrew served for several years on Moscow Human Rights Commission, including as Vice Chair. He brought an important, sometimes overlooked perspective to HRC conversations. He was especially interested in non-motorized transportation infrastructure and accessibility, and helped improve the ways people get around in Moscow: Sidewalks are wider, better-connected, in better-repair, and without obstructions, and snow is removed from major walking and wheeling routes with prioritization similar to that for roadways. Andrew wrote letters to the editor, set up meetings with elected officials, and delivered presentations on topics that inspired him...and ultimately, others.

Andrew led an amazing life. Casual observers might have focused on his disability—He had cerebral palsy, quadriplegia, and used an assisted wheelchair. They may have wondered how hard it must have been for him to just keep going every day. However, after getting to know Andrew even just a little (or reading his book, [a 1,000,000smiles.com](http://a1,000,000smiles.com)), one became aware of how much joy he found in life, how glad he was to be able to make a difference, and how much humor and subtlety could be found in his communication, if one just paid attention. Andrew may have been non-verbal, but he was outspoken. His sister's attentiveness and innovation led to a unique communication system that helped Andrew unlock his potential, so that more people could learn from his gifts. He communicated by bouncing his knee—the only body part he could

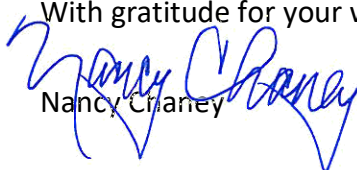
reliably control—and carried around a binder for others to translate the number, sequence, and cadence of knee-bounces into words and phrases. Andrew was determined enough to have his voice heard that he wrote a whole book that way.

Andrew was passionate about human and civil rights. He supported the *Add the Words* campaign in Idaho, to prevent discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, or expression. In 2013, he wrote, “I know what it is like to be different and to be treated differently because of the way I look. People see the chair, people assume, they make judgements. They don't kick me out of my home, or fire me from my job because of it. The Americans with Disabilities Act protects people like me. If I have a grievance, I know there are laws to protect me. That makes me feel safe and secure. It makes me feel protected.” Accordingly, he successfully urged Moscow City council to pass a more inclusive anti-discrimination ordinance, adding “It is imperative that our people feel safe and secure knowing that they can live their lives and know that their city government includes *ALL* of its citizens in its anti-discrimination laws.” In 2007, he helped organize a human rights forum about firearms safety and common sense regulations around guns (*Murder, Weapons, and Violence on the Palouse*). Andrew was a leader in advocating for investments in accessible multi-modal transportation systems and enabling/requiring businesses, individual property owners, and public sector facilities to accommodate everyone, including people with disabilities. He was integral to sparking the establishment of Moscow’s Mobility Task Force, which culminated in detailed maps showing disconnected sidewalks, missing curb drops, cracked/heaved/obstructed sections of walkways, and where local government could get the biggest bang for the public’s buck by fixing those sections strategically. Andrew participated in the on-the-ground survey, and made notes about poorly-designed ramps, doors, and door-openers, including at City Hall.

Andrew was a champion for civil discourse, and his words are more significant now than ever before. He was quoted in a City press release about a 2008 Human Rights Commission forum on that topic: “This forum will help people in the community and people running for public office come together to discuss issues and concerns. It will help people better understand one another and express opinions without ridicule or negativity.” Andrew was a kindly spirit and powerful force in our community. He made our community better. Sadly, Andrew passed away in August 2020.

Now, it’s up to us. As the statement on the HRTF web site makes clear, “The responsibility for halting the spread of hate in the community lies with the community itself. You can help establish the climate where all citizens regardless of race, ethnic background, disability, religion, sex or sexual orientation can live together in harmony.” **Please honor Andrew’s contributions to that effort with the Rosa Parks Human Rights Achievement Award.**

With gratitude for your work,


Nancy Chaney