

A Grander Vision for the Heartland

Welcome and Introductions

- Goal of this committee: Create a community where arts and culture are a part of everyday life in Hall County by supporting the development of artists, venues and activities for all ages.
- ► Grand Island Identity: Railroad, Cranes, Veterans, City of Kindness
 - ► Future identity: Downtown?, Arts & Culture?, etc.
- Goals for today and future meetings
 - ▶ Progress: Where we started, where we are now, where we want to be
 - ▶ What's missing? Anything to add to the "dream" list for the next 5-10 years
 - Prioritize the list: when do identify who should work on each priority, timeline, funding, planning, implementation
 - Education for decision making and action planning
- Recent events:
 - Hear Nebraska Concert was great!
 - Jazz in the Moonlight was fantastic!
 - Kaufmann Plaza!



SUN SHADE STRUCTURES PROVIDING PROTECTION, ARTISTIC EXPRESSION AND VERTICAL STRUCTURE WITHIN THE PLAZA



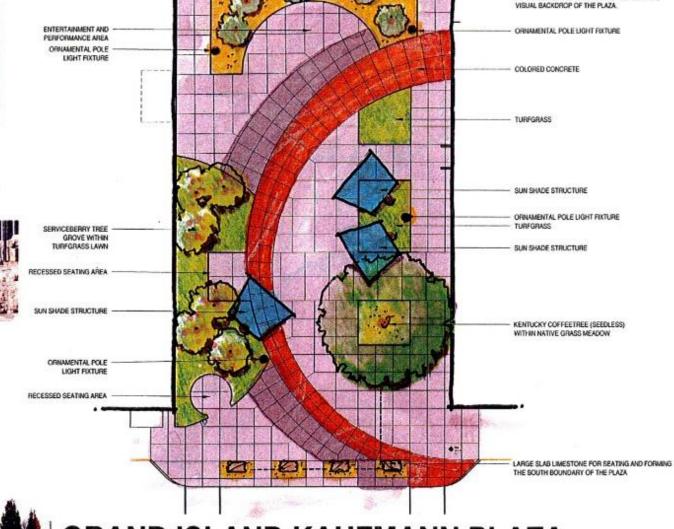
STAINED CONCRETE PAVEMENT TO PROVIDE VISUAL INTEREST AND EXPRESSION OF MOTION THROUGH THE PLAZA



COLUMNAR OAKS WITHIN NATIVE GRASS MEADOW TO SOFTEN THE PLAZA

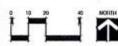
HARDSCAPE AND FORM THE NORTH

LARGE SLAB LIMESTONE FOR SEATING AND INTRODUCTION OF NATURAL MATERIALS TO THE PLAZA



EDGE OF THE PLAZA

GRAND ISLAND KAUFMANN PLAZA

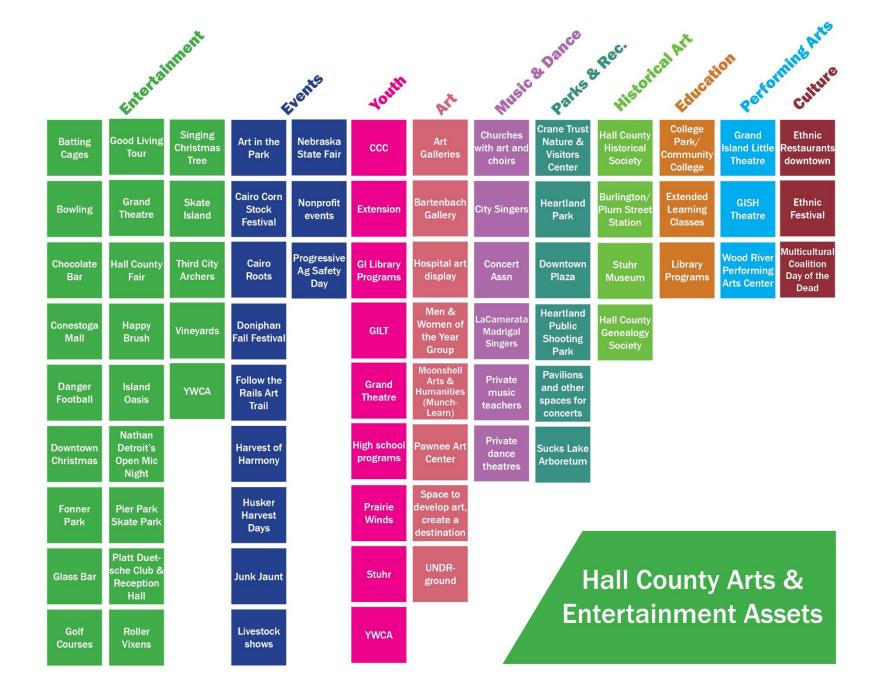






NATIVE GRASS MEADOW WITH COLUMNAR OAK TREES TO SIMULATE AN OAK SAVANNAH AND FORM THE

Asset Map



Obstacles

- Communication/ central location to share information
- Perception of "nothing to do here" and how much entertainment is needed to override that mentality - What does enough to do mean?
- Money/sponsorship
- How to prioritize, find people, businesses to fund
- ▶ Events are fragmented, consolidate events when appropriate, collaborate
- Consensus in criteria/How to prioritize
- Demand
- Partner & support each other
- Mentality of doing what has always been done
- Lack of venues
- Name brand entertainment at an affordable rate
- Competition from Lincoln and Omaha
- Creating entertainment districts. Ex: Hay Market, Old Market
- Perception "local is not as good"

Other Comments

- If there is entertainment we can't offer here, we could offer transportation to and from events (i.e. opera)
- Community beautification, create destinations, make art a part of everyday life, walking tours, cultural tourism
- Grand Island needs to work on being a destination and developing an experience
- Any initiative could be derailed, we need to support through partnerships under the umbrella of Grow Grand Island
- Need to piggyback events together to make them larger, with a bigger draw.
- We should consider our demographic and what kinds of entertainment would be attractive to our community

Dreaming

Events/Performing Arts

- Summer street festival
- Stuhr + CCC+ GILT Event
- Summer music/arts festival (Downtown?)
- Nebraska Shakespeare ballet /classical music
- Open mike nights
- Focus on improving current events
- Sporting challenges
- More instrumental performances
- Live strolling musicians (Downtown?)
- Slam poetry
- Live Shows
- Live performance
- Concerts
- More arts and music together
- Grow prairie lights film festivals

Venues and Districts

- Drive-in movie theatre
- Arts = visual, performing (music, theatre), literary
- Participation walkway areas with sculptures
- and outdoor concerts
- More art museums
- An actual performing arts center
- Freedom of expression space/forum
- Botanical gardens spaces
- Band shell in a park (venue)
- Venues with live entertainment
- Downtown Identity
- Multi-function public spaces
- Arts district
- Public art (downtown, S. Locust, entryways)
- Public art along Highway 30
- Stolley Park Arboretum
- Sucks Lake Arboretum

Dreaming

Image/Marketing

- Need a paid staff to champion these efforts
- Arts & event communication table tents, website,
- online calendar w/shared widgets, app, social media)
- Media partnerships (radio, tv, newspaper)
- Recognition of all arts
- Awareness events
- Digital & other billboards
- One identity
- Arts/entertainment meetings
- Cooperative advertising
- Knowing our local talent
- Solicit movie productions
- ► Tie in or play on the word "Grand"
- Community beautification
- Make art a part of everyday life
- Need an umbrella approach to stay on track
- Collaborative events to make them larger
- ▶ GI Sesquicentennial in 2022

Downtown

- Develop downtown: Arts and humanities +
- housing = people will come
- ► Grand Island downtown like an old market
- Walk overhead downtown to 4th street
- Old Market, Hay Market (Rail Side)
- Street art
- Downtown expansion with arts & entertainment
- Public sculpture walking tour
- Vibrant downtown community
- Fine dining
- ► How can we support "arty" shops
- First Friday's night of art and fine dining

Dreaming

Cultural Diversity and Engagement

- Varied cultural arts for everyone to relate to
- ► Central cultural core surrounding downtown
- Culture diversity
- Integrated community
- Culturally inner connected
- Incorporation of different cultures into community events
- Monthly cultural event (1st Friday)
- Diverse (ethnic) restaurant dining
- Cultural tourism

Art Incubator / Education

- Artists' colony
- Well-known arts "district"
- Artistic immigration
- Emerging artist coop/center
- Opportunity to watch art being made
- Art destination for central NE
- Makers space (open studios)

Youth

- Children's museum
- Indoor playground
- Connect kids and culture
- Youth art gallery
- Art teachers programs in schools
- Expansion of teen activities (teen rec center)
- High schools participate in Poetry Out Loud
- Celebrate our history
- Student discounts downtown

Next Steps

- Define priorities
- ► Networking: get to know each other
- ► Education and funding sources:
 - ► Nebraska Arts Council
 - ► Nebraska Cultural Endowment
 - ► Humanities Nebraska
 - ► Kearney Cultural Partners
 - ► Jerome Dubas
 - ► Hastings College
 - ▶ Nebraskans for the Arts
 - ► Omaha by Design
 - Downton Grand Island
 - ► Others?

www.GrowGrandIsland.com





Facebook: Grow Grand Island

Invite Friends to "LIKE" the page

Step 1: On Facebook, go to the Grow Grand Island page

Step 2: Once on the Grow Grand Island page, click "Invite friends to like this page"

Upcoming Meetings

- ► Nebraska Arts Council Community Listening Form
 - ▶ Wednesday, August 12th
 - ▶ 2:00 p.m.
 - ► Stuhr Museum: Edgar Reynolds Administration Building
 - RSVP to rachel.morgan@nebraska.gov
- Next Committee Meeting
 - ► Thursday, October 1st
 - ▶ 12:00 1:00 p.m.
 - ► Tom Dinsdale Auto