

SENSE OF THE CITY

Discover for yourself the vibrant array of public art throughout Cambridge. Explore this collection that expresses appreciation for the essential matters of civic life.



CAMBRIDGE | PUBLIC
ARTS | ART

CAMBRIDGE ARTS HAS COMMISSIONED MORE THAN 280 PUBLIC ARTWORKS THAT ENRICH OUR CITY, BASED ON A LONG-STANDING PERCENT-FOR-ART PROGRAM THAT INTEGRATES ART WITH MUNICIPAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS. DISCOVER THESE ARTWORKS FOR YOURSELF ON THIS SELF-GUIDED CAMBRIDGE ARTS EXCURSION.

TOWN GREEN

LOCATION: CITY HALL ANNEX, 344 BROADWAY (LOBBY AND ATRIUM, FLOORS 1-4) DETAILS: BY MICHAEL GLIER / 2004 / ACRYLIC AND CHARCOAL ON SHEETROCK

The City Hall Annex holds five departments: Traffic and Parking, Community Development, Animal Commission, Conservation Commission, and Cambridge Arts. Glier references urban moments and key features of civic life in Cambridge: transparency of government, democracy in action, controlling urban growth, reading, rowing on the Charles River, dog walkers, and the Cambridge Common.



ENGINE COMPANY NO. 5

LOCATION: INMAN SQUARE FIREHOUSE, 1384 CAMBRIDGE STREET (EXTERIOR, 2ND LEVEL, FACING WEST) DETAILS: BY ELLARY EDDY / 1976 / ACRYLIC ON BRICK

This mural, the first public art project commissioned by Cambridge Arts, honors the service of Patrick H. Raymond Engine Company No. 5, which was founded in 1874 and named after the first African American fire chief in the U.S. Look for George Washington and Benjamin Franklin who were volunteer firefighters! Since the mural is viewed from a distance, Eddy made the figures three times life-size.



ILLUMINATION PROJECT

LOCATION: ROBERT W. HEALY PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY, 125 SIXTH STREET DETAILS: BY KRZYSZTOF WODICZKO / 2009 / ELECTRONIC MEDIA: LED LIGHTS, METAL, COMPUTER SOFTWARE

To express the responsiveness of the Police and Emergency Communications Departments, Wodiczko's illumination is tied to the dispatch room where 911 calls are received and actions taken. Green lights indicate a medical response, red for fire, and blue for police. When not flashing, the blue lights breathe slowly, suggesting the departments' ongoing work to ensure the safety of the city.



UNTITLED

LOCATION: NORTH CAMBRIDGE SENIOR CENTER, 2050 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, FIRST FLOOR DETAILS: BY DAVID FICHTER / 1986 / ACRYLIC

Fichter has created murals for decades, often placing historical references alongside members of the neighborhood within which the mural is sited. Here he depicts seniors active in society and passing down knowledge to a younger generation. The North Cambridge Senior Center is one of two locations that provide essential services and enrichment activities for the elders in our community.

