

2009-2010 Leadership Lexington Projects

Project 1: Family Resource Fair

Commerce Lexington's Leadership Lexington program will host a Family Resource Fair titled the "Live, Work, and Be Healthy Family Resource Fair" on Saturday, May 15, from 10am-2pm at the Fayette County Cooperative Extension Service, 1140 Red Mile Place. The purpose is to promote resources available in Fayette and surrounding counties for housing, jobs, and health issues...the 3 biggest areas of concern for our underserved families in the Lexington area. Organizers are working in concert with vendors throughout the Central Kentucky region to provide a wide range of services in the areas of education, finance, health and wellness, and the arts. In addition, there will be food, music, and children's activities available on site. More than 300 people are expected to attend this free event, made possible by our generous corporate sponsors, Kentucky American Water, Fifth Third Bank, and Central Bank. For more information, please contact Ms. Kim Livesay at klivesay@hopectr.org.

Project 2: Lexington Public Art Catalog Unique Selling Proposition

Leadership Lexington Class of 2010, in cooperation with LexArts, through its Call to Artists will generate a portfolio of multiple, specific public art proposals by accomplished artists. This initiative will result in up to 5 specific public art proposals for downtown Lexington, with selected artists and their proposals having been vetted by arts professionals, civic leaders and other representatives of the Lexington community.

Compelling Benefits & Supporting Points

- According to the recent Destination 2040 community survey, art tourism and public art attractions are a high priority for Lexington. In order to make the city conducive to quality entertainment, tourism, and investment, Lexington needs the city's downtown center to be interesting and dynamic. Public art is a critical ingredient in transforming Lexington's downtown landscape into a more desirable destination.
- This initiative would be driven by public input and develop support from the Lexington community as follows:
 - Call to artists through a request for qualifications (RFQ) for public art. Responses to RFQs would require examples of existing public art of responding artists' works. RFQs would be reviewed and approved by a local jury of artists and community leaders and exhibited and publicized at local events seeking broader public input.
 - Following public input, the jury would select the RFQ finalists and issue to them request for proposals (RFP). \$2,000 cash stipends (including available travel stipend) would be provided to the selected artists to fund detailed proposals.
 - Final proposals would be submitted for approval and, following approval, collected and published as a portfolio of available public art pieces ready for implementation upon funding.
- Through this initiative, when funds for public art become available, Lexington will be ready to implement the best proposals (individual budgets could range from \$50,000 - \$150,000) from the artists whom the community most admires. This

will set a precedent for how the community engages public input and support for public art. Once multiple works have been funded and installed, a similar process could be repeated.

Value Proposition

This cost-efficient initiative (estimated between \$10,000 – 15,000) will result in:

1. A well-vetted program for public art in Lexington,
2. The creation of a pool of interested artists,
3. Public review and input,
4. A select group of finalists, and
5. A portfolio of specific art proposals for downtown ready for implementation.

Project 3 Improving Diversity in Lexington: Barrier Free Playground at Castlewood Park

Leadership Lexington's Class of 2010 is teaming up with the LFUCG Division of Parks and Recreation to enhance the playground area at Castlewood Park to make it more inclusive. LFUCG helped the group identify Castlewood Park for this project.

Castlewood Park's playground already has some handicap accessible features, and the park also serves as the home to therapeutic camps for Fayette and surrounding counties. The Barrier Free Playground project has had strong support from LFUCG Parks and Recreation Director Jerry Hancock, and from Councilwoman Linda Gorton. Working together we have completed the design and planning phases and are now entering into the funding phase.

Several areas were identified for improvement to better serve those with special needs:

- replacing the wood chip base with a solid surface that would allow wheelchairs, walkers, and children with low muscle tone to better navigate the area
- adding playground equipment to meet the needs of a diverse group of children with both physical and developmental disabilities (Autism, Down Syndrome, etc.)
- establishing a parking area closer to the playground.

The Leadership Lexington team will be launching a website in cooperation with Landscape Structures, Inc. to reveal the new plan for the playground and more importantly, to act as a fundraising tool for the project. Opportunities will exist for individuals and/or organizations to sponsor a piece of equipment for the area. For more information, contact Jacoby Malone at: j.malone@insightbb.com.

Links to project information:

Website:

www.playlsi.com/yournewplayground

Enter Presentation ID: 40949

Facebook Page:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Barrier-Free-Playground-Castlewood-Park/119637821387660>

Facebook Causes Page for Online Donations:

<http://www.causes.com/causes/479379%20>

Email Address:

barrierfreeplayground@gmail.com

Project 4 information coming.