



Office of the Mayor • 1140 Terex Road • Hudson, Ohio 44236 USA

Date: 03 February 2026
To: Staff & Council
From: Mayor Anzevino
Subject: Final Phases for the Birdsong Art Project & 365-Day Kindness Rock Garden

Background - Birdsong Project, Melody & the 365-Day Kindness Rock Garden

In July 2022, the Birdsong project, a unique public art installation, throughout the Gazebo, Clocktower, and South (Ravenna St.) greens received a one-year approval from Council to display 150 small bird sculptures hand-painted by local artists and community members, reference Resolution 22-88. As a part of this project, Melody, a larger bird exhibit, which was adorned with hundreds of small tiles painted by residents of all ages and housed on the Park Lane Green was installed in the Spring of 2023.

Melody's stay on the Park Lane green was extended in 2024 to run through the end of April 2025 via Resolution 24-22 and 3 planters filled with painted Kindness rocks were added and dedicated to the community in the Spring of 2024, with Art class students from both Seton and the Hudson City Middle School in attendance.

On April 15, 2025, Council approved an additional extension for Melody and the Rock Garden through October, 2026 via Resolution 25-71.

Expanded Project Scope Locally and with Rome, Italy

While the 150 small birds were removed from the Clocktower, Gazebo and South (Ravenna St.) greens in the Spring of 2024, they have continued to be on display around the local area. The flock of smaller birds have traveled to downtown Cuyahoga Falls, the Akron Art Museum, the Summit County Library and will soon be on display at the Cleveland Botanical Gardens.

The Birdsong project has also expanded globally and small, painted, 2D, metal birds have travelled to Rome, Italy and are currently hanging from an ancient magnolia tree in the courtyard of a library, as coordinated by Door2Art and with contributions from local artists in Rome and the nearby suburb of Alatri, Italy.

Continued Community Engagement Locally and with Landsberg, Germany

Door2Art, Mayor Anzevino and the Hudson Landsberg group have also been working to duplicate the complimentary project in Italy with our sister city in Landsberg Germany. Discussions took place this past Summer and a package complete with the 2D, metal birds, all art supplies and information on the Birdsong project will soon be on the way to our contacts in Landsberg. The plan will be to have local artists in Landsberg paint the 2D, metal birds and hang them in a fitting place within their City this coming Spring, further supporting our sister-city motto of "Connecting Cities, Connecting People" and doing so through public art.

Recommendations

With the plans to conclude the project relating to the small birds, there is a desire and wish to bring the small birds back to downtown Hudson and for the flock's final stop on their journey. This specific request would contain the small birds to a single location within the trees on the Park Lane green, surrounding Melody. The requested timeframe for this display would be from July 15th through October 15th, 2026 (3 months). At the completion of this phase, Door2Art will remove the small birds and return the site to its original condition. Door2Art will also be looking to donate some of the small birds to organizations within town.

With regard to Melody and the 365-Day Kindness Rock Garden, Door2Art is offering to donate these pieces to the City of Hudson. As such, the desire is to keep both Melody and the 356-Day Kindness Rock Garden in the current location on the Park Lane green. The Birdsong project's theme is the wonder in the way birds sing their individual songs, but when they sing together, they create an inspiring sound of unity. Therefore, a visible and public space is most desirable.

Financial Impact

The cost to the City of Hudson for these final phases is zero (\$0.00). Door2Art will cover the cost and time to install and remove the smaller birds on the Park Lane green this Summer, with Council's approval. Additionally, Door2Art has already covered the cost to prepare the package for the 2D metal birds going to Germany and the Hudson Landsberg group will be coordinating the shipping. The 356-Day Kindness Garden has a stock of painted rocks, as completed by both Door2Art and the Hudson Middle School via coordination and collaboration with Mayor Anzevino. The 3 colorful pots will be re-stocked when the weather improves this Spring.

Return on Investment

The purpose of the 365-Day Kindness rock garden remains as a compliment to Melody and the Birdsong project and a way to continually engage with the public. These collective pieces continue to create an increased sense of community and promote acts of kindness. Door2Art is also willing and excited to offer ways to tie the return of the small birds into Hudson's celebration of our Nation's 250th anniversary. Furthermore, retaining Melody and the 365-Day Kindness Rock Garden in downtown can potentially increase additional engagement opportunities with the local merchants and not only help showcase our City, but also help drive more foot traffic to support our local economy. In conclusion, the net impact to the City of Hudson and the community is favorable.

Conclusion

The Mayor and Staff wish to discuss the above recommendations and agree on a path forward for the final phases of the Birdsong project here in Hudson, Ohio.

Thank you,



Jeffrey L. Anzevino
Mayor, City of Hudson