

# Seattle Department of Parks and Recreations City Art Works Records, 1980-1985

## Overview of the Collection

<b>Creator</b>	Seattle (Wash.). Dept. of Parks and Recreation
<b>Title</b>	Seattle Department of Parks and Recreations City Art Works Records
<b>Dates</b>	1980-1985 (inclusive) 1980 1985
<b>Quantity</b>	.2 cubic foot, (1 box)
<b>Collection Number</b>	5807-16
<b>Summary</b>	Records regarding City of Seattle's art education programs at Seward Park Art Studio and Pratt Fine Art center
<b>Repository</b>	<a href="#">Seattle Municipal Archives</a> Seattle Municipal Archives Office of the City Clerk City of Seattle PO Box 94728 98124-4728 Seattle, WA Telephone: 206-233-7807 Fax: 206-386-9025 <a href="mailto:archives@seattle.gov">archives@seattle.gov</a>
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	Records are open to the public.
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Sponsor</b>	Funding for processing this record series was provided through a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

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## Historical Note

The Department of Parks and Recreation maintains the City's parks, shorelines, and boulevards; and administers community centers, public golf courses, and other athletic and cultural facilities. Seattle's first park was established in 1884 after David Denny donated land to the City for that purpose. At that time, a three-member park committee, with limited authority, was created to manage the nascent park system. A Board of Parks Commissioners was established in 1890 with control over all public parks and authority to appoint a Parks Superintendent. In 1896, the City Charter created the position of Superintendent of Streets, Sewers and Parks. The Parks Department became a separate entity in 1904. In 1926, a City Charter amendment abolished the position of Superintendent, distributing its responsibilities between the Head Gardener and the Landscape Architect. A 1948 City Charter amendment required the Board of Park Commissioners to appoint a park superintendent to administer the department. In 1967, another City Charter Amendment reconstituted the Board as an advisory body to the Mayor and City Council, changed the agency name to Department of Parks and Recreation, and placed fiscal and operational administration under the superintendent. In 1902 the City hired the Olmsted Brothers, the country's premier landscape architectural firm, to design a parks and boulevards system. Although not all of the plan was implemented, the Olmsted legacy is evident in many of

Seattle's parks and boulevards. The City acquired significant amounts of property for park purposes following the turn of the 20th Century, but in 1926 further acquisition was limited by a City Charter amendment that stipulated only money in the Park Fund could be used for that purpose. However, in the 1970s the Forward Thrust Bond issue, along with federal grants and the Seattle Model City Program, supported the largest expansion of the Park system in Seattle history. These programs funded more than 70 new parks and park facilities. The Department manages over 6,000 acres of park land, over two dozen community centers, five municipal golf courses, the Aquarium, and many other recreational and athletic facilities.

## Content Description

Correspondence, class schedules, articles of incorporation and clippings regarding a private non-profit group which offered visual arts instruction at Seward Park Art Studio and Pratt Fine Arts Center. Also included are correspondence and other records of the City Art Works Advisory Council, the program's first governing body.

Records of the Pratt Fine Art Center, (record series 5810-01), and Seward Park Art Studio, (record series 5808-01), document operations of the two facilities before their merger. For related records regarding the administration of the Department of Parks and Recreation Performing and Visual Arts Program, see record series 5807-14.

## Use of the Collection

### Preferred Citation

[Item and date], Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation City Art Works Records, Record Series 5807-16. Box [number], Folder [number]. Seattle Municipal Archives.

## Administrative Information

### Arrangement

Arranged alphabetically.

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

### 5807-16: City Art Works Records, 1980-1985

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
1/1	Articles of Incorporation - City Art Works	1982

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1/2	City Art Works Advisory Council - Articles of Incorporation	1981
1/3	City Art Works Advisory Council - Correspondence	1981-1982
1/4	City Art Works Advisory Council - Minutes, Agenda	1982
1/5	Class Schedules	1980-1985
1/6	Clippings	1981-1985
1/7	Correspondence	1980-1983
1/8	Exhibit Announcement - Pratt Fine Arts Center, Jewelry and Metalwork	undated
1/9	Fact Sheet	undated
1/10	News Releases	1981-1982

## Names and Subjects

### Subject Terms :

Art metal-work--Washington (State)--Seattle  
 Art schools--Washington (State)--Seattle  
 Art Study and teaching--Washington (State)--Seattle  
 Ceramics--Washington (State)--Seattle  
 Glass art--Washington (State)--Seattle

### Corporate Names :

Seattle (Wash.). Dept. of Parks and Recreation  
 City Art Works (Seattle, Wash.)  
 Pratt Fine Arts Center (Seattle, Wash.)  
 Seward Park Art Studio (Seattle, Wash.)

### Geographical Names :

Seattle (Wash.)

Finding aid prepared by Janet Ness  
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