



TOWN OF WELLESLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Four New Artists Selected for Wellesley's Traffic Box Art Program *Public Art Project Now Includes 11 Painted Boxes*

June 21, 2021 (Wellesley, MA) – Wellesley's traffic boxes continue to get more colorful. Four new artists were selected this spring to add their designs to the Town's ongoing Traffic Box Art Program. The public art project began in 2020 as collaboration between the Wellesley Police Department and the Town's Public Art Committee and is intended to enhance the visual experience for residents and visitors to Wellesley.

Seven local artists have helped transform traffic signal boxes at busy intersections with designs that provide entertaining and stimulating experiences for passersby. With the four newly selected artists, Wellesley will have 11 painted boxes finished by mid-summer.

The selection committee added a unique twist to the project this spring, choosing a team of students from the Wellesley High School Evolutions program to paint one of the 2021 boxes. Another high school artist was selected for a different box and will be painting her design with mentoring from a member of the Public Art Committee.

Look for the newly painted boxes at the following Wellesley intersections (photo by Beth Shedd):

- **Linden Street at Kingsbury Street:** *"The Council of Vernal Pools"* designed by WHS students Ellie Ostler and Luke Graves and painted by the WHS Evolutions Program.
- **Warren Park:** *"Reach for the Stars"* designed and painted by WHS student Kathryn Fischmann mentored by Annie Newman.
- **Washington Street at Seaward Road:** *"A Sudden Gust of Joy"* designed and painted by David Teng Olsen, Wellesley College art professor.
- **Washington Street at Forest Street:** *"A Pollinator's Dream"* designed and painted by D'Ann Hansen, Wellesley Recreation Department art teacher.



David Teng Olsen with his painted box.

Artists selected for the Traffic Box Art Program receive a \$1,000 stipend, per location, to cover time, transportation, and supplies. For the Evolutions Program students, the money goes directly to support program costs.

The Traffic Box Art program is an ongoing project. In the fall of 2021, more artists will have an opportunity to submit designs for other boxes. Ultimately the Town and the Public Art Committee hopes to paint all of the high visibility boxes for the community to enjoy. A new Traffic Box Art interactive map with photos, locations, and artist information will be available later this summer.