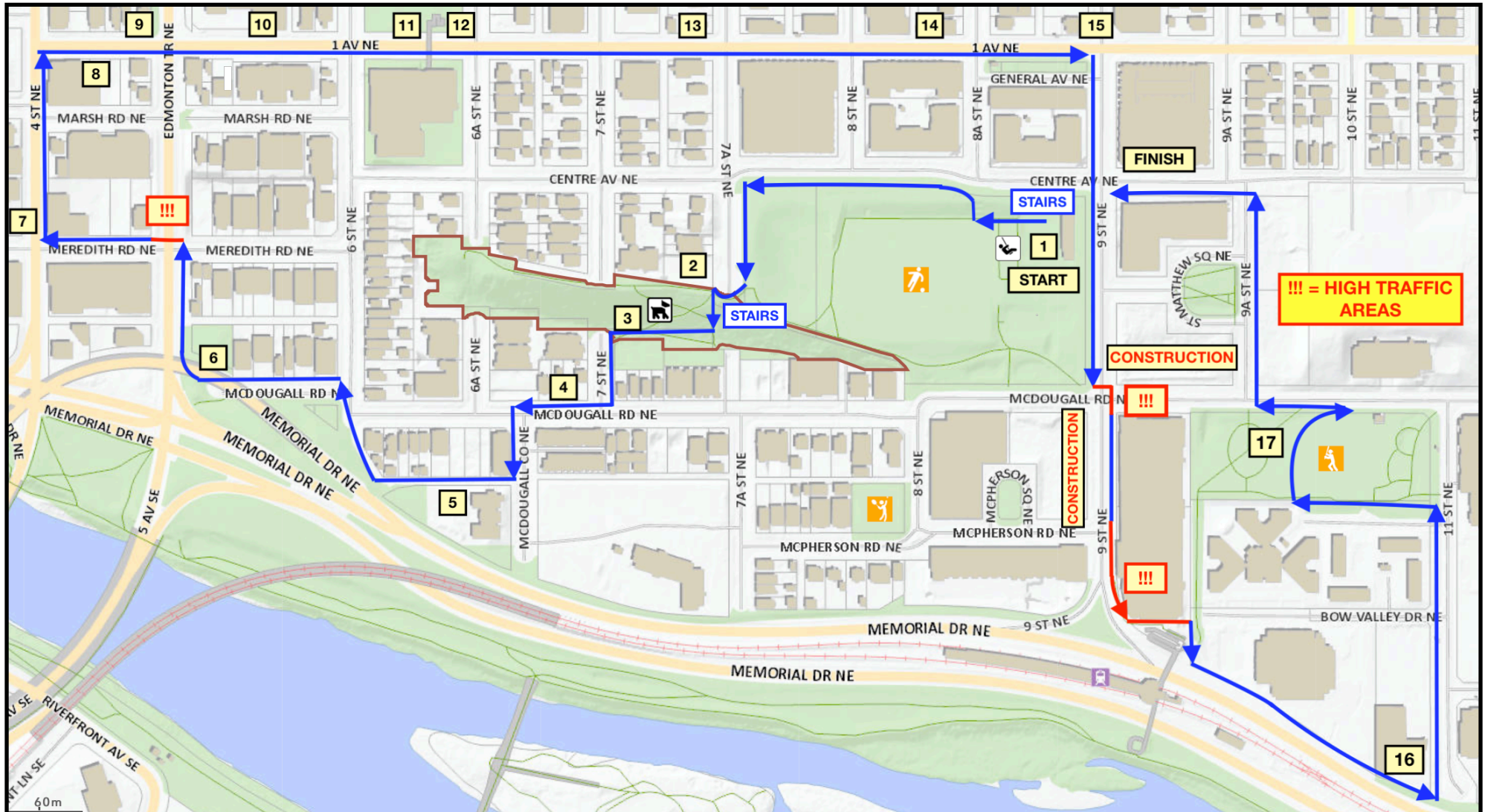


Bridgeland Walks – Self Guided #3 - Riverside Art Walk



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Welcome to our art walk in Bridgeland Riverside... 4 kilometers on mostly flat sidewalks (plus down one short, and one long stairway), and along a back lane.

Artistic expression is alive and well in Bridgeland Riverside!

What purpose does art serve in our lives? Here are some ideas....

- express individuality and beauty
- create a special atmosphere or feeling
- prompt conversations and a different way of thinking
- cover up a less than pretty area
- inspire us and make us feel good
- educate us or remind us about the past
- prompt us to slow down and look at something new or interesting
- promote safety & deter graffiti.

The art you'll see on this walk is all these things and also about local people of all ages, creating something meaningful in an ordinary setting.

Enjoy your walk and the art that you see!

***** Take care crossing streets at high traffic locations on Edmonton Trail & 1st Avenue, and construction areas. Watch for scooters and bikes on 9 Street sidewalk between Bridgeland CTrain station and McDougall Road.**

Start from the BRCA hall and go down the stairs to view the mural on the northern wall....

Stop #1. BRCA Mural. This was a project of the Bridgeland Riverside Community Art Group, a group of residents who were interested in bringing together community and beautifying our community. The mural design was created by Andrea Lau who worked to incorporate design elements and images that were family friendly and reflected the nature of our community (density, natural elements, change as represented by the arrows) and also the playground. In June 2013 residents and community members of all ages came to help fill in the mural and paint it together. This mural was funded by grants from the Calgary Foundation and the City of Calgary. Unfortunately part of the mural has been covered by construction of a storage building.

Walk West along the edge of the soccer field and take the stairs up to Centre Ave and walk along till you reach 7a St and turn left /South. Go to the fence just to the south of the St Matthew Church parking lot....

Stop #2 My Beautiful Backyard. These 10 little panels are the backside of number signs for St Matthew Lutheran Church parking lot. In the past these “blank slates” were the frequent target for graffiti. Susan Mulholland from the BRCA Beautification committee co-ordinated the project to cover up them up. The church was agreeable to painting these panels on the theme of “My Beautiful Backyard”. We put out the invitation

and one lovely August evening in 2017, a range of locals of all ages appeared and took up paint brushes to share what they would see in their own beautiful backyards... and here we see the result.

Take the 7A Street stairs to the pathway below and walk west. Stop when you reach the garden and its colourful fence art...

Stop #3. 'The Seasons' This colourful fence art was designed and installed under the direction of artist Corinne Dickson Kaufman and painted by students from Langevin Science School. They did this art piece to show gratitude and appreciation for the time generously provided by Mike Ricketts and Marshal Libicz concerning the presence of this historic Vacant Lots garden. The symbols attached to the garden fence represent sun, soil, seeds and water that are all required for growing. This art shows the student's involvement and that they care about the community.

Walk ahead the nearby 7th Street and then South to McDougall Rd, turn West and go to the second house....

Stop #4. 'Eyes on the Street' fence art. It's an artist's home and In front you'll see two artistic features - the fence art and 'Tinier Gallery,' an aquarium-sized gallery , that features changing scenes. Along the entire length of the fence the artist and his son painted an immense pair of eyes . The original purpose of the eyes was to remind drivers to slow down and watch for children in the neighbourhood. But the 'eyes on the street' also gaze lovingly over the neighbourhood and became the brand for the community's Eyes on the Street Facebook page and other safety-related communication.

Continue West on McDougall Rd and turn left/ South at the next corner - McDougall Court. At the lane turn right and proceed West. At the end of the building to the south which is Margaret Chisholm Refugee Resettlement Centre. Look for the sculptures in the backyard...

Stop #5 Canadian wildlife Sculptures The people who stay in this building (capacity 75) for up to 15 days come from a variety of difficult circumstances and countries around the world. They are refugees who are part of the Canadian government resettlement program and they will soon be moving in their own accommodation. The purpose of this art installation is to acquaint the people with a sample of the wildlife of Canada – the bear, elk, deer and small bison – in a safe and pleasant situation.

Continue down the lane and turn right/ North and walk till you reach McDougall Rd then turn left....

Stop #6. Flyover Park. The area under the 4th Avenue flyover (constructed in the 1970's) has been an area of social disorder and residents mostly avoided this place. Bridgeland resident Ali McMillan set about to change this by reclaiming the area by installing recycled green football turf to cover the dirt, then organizing the Sundown Social community event (<http://www.budsofbuds.com/sundown-social.html>), complete with music, food trucks, craft booths and the painting of many birdhouses by young and old, followed by installation of planters with trees on which to hang the birdhouses,

installation of natural benches and then hiring artist Tanner Hamilton to paint the pillars. Next steps were serious fundraising, with support of the Parks Foundation... and planning – all culminating in the construction of Flyover Park – which is happening over summer 2020. This formerly undesirable area will be transformed into a very beautiful and fun place.

Continue South to Memorial Drive, cross Edmonton Trail and 4th Street, then head North to the large brick building on the West side of 4th Street...

Stop #7 ‘The Menu’ - window art on the main floor of the historic Armour and Reliance Blocks - was completed by Michael Grills. From his website Michael says “This project had four important goals. Attract positive attention to the building site, so community members take part in the feasibility study, make the street feel safe for passersby, create art that the community could be proud of until the city could make critical decisions, and advertise the possibilities of the site. We used art to highlight the unique history of the building and the neighbourhood. It sits near new development that includes living and retail spaces. Coffee shops, clothing, and speciality shops are all nearby and have made their homes in other heritage sites and new buildings as well.” The ground floor is currently undergoing some renovation by the City.

Continue North on 4 Street cross to the East at 1st Ave and walk East past the jewelry store....

Stop #8 BE Cubed. Look to the south on the tall wall behind Luke’s drug mart (on the side of the former Jacques and Alberta Furniture store) and you’ll see “Be Cubed”, a 30 foot art installation co-ordinated by Buds of Buds (with local Katie Pearce) and funded by Bucci. A contest was held and Michelle Hoogveld's cube was selected by the community at large. Painted in the spring of 2017, “the new cube found its place on the wall, as if the wall was waiting for it all its life”. Artist Hoogveld painted alongside artists Tanner Hamilton, Ivan Ostapenko, and Chris Casson to complete the rather large task. Impressively, they pulled it off in a week - ready just in time for the ribbon cutting.

Now look to the North and you’ll see a lovely wall mural on the side of the Ville Firenze restaurant. In the 1990’s with the updating of the community’s Area Redevelopment Plan, the theme of a European Village was chosen to best represent our community. Several businesses along 1st Ave painted art that would depict a taste of Europe. This scene from Florence Italy fits well for this family owned restaurant that offers traditional Italian cuisine. Note: The artist is unknown but perhaps someone can tell us!

Proceed East to the NW corner of Edmonton Trail and stop at the Utility box...

Stop #9 ‘History on the Box’ This second project by the community art group, with local artist Andrea Lau, was funded by a Calgary 2012 grant, the year Calgary was named Cultural Capital of Canada. The images painted on the box show historic settings in this 100+ year old community: Langevin (Reconciliation) Bridge, Riverside Bungalow school, the Gerlitz Block. The painting of the box has reduced graffiti here and in the area.

Walk across Edmonton Trail and continue East on 1 Ave and stop at #646...

Stop #10. When its Inglewood location was sold and demolished the **Inglewood Art and Supplies store** chose to move to Bridgeland Riverside but kept their well known name. Old customers have loyally followed them, new ones have discovered them here and they have expanded their offerings with art classes in the space next door.

Continue east on 1 Avenue till you reach the concrete overpass to the school...

Stop #11. Langevin School mural. Charlie Johnston is a Winnipeg mural artist who was hired by Langevin School to work with students to bring science to life through art. The students' provided ideas for themes that included: science, discovery, nature, innovation, time lapse and team work and Charlie created the initial concept sketches. In May and June '14, Charlie, working with students in all grades as well as teachers and adult volunteers, designed and painted panels to be affixed to the concrete. That summer he painted the mural outline on the concrete and attached the student's panels to make a cohesive mural. The 'Grand Opening' was held during Beakerhead Science Festival in September 2014. This art installation has certainly brightened up the appearance of the concrete bunker road crossing structure.

Proceed East to the corner of 6A St, turn North & cross the school parking lot...

Stop #12. Langevin School Fence Fishes & Birdhouses and amphitheatre. Another project at the Science School resulted in a treed, garden area along the slope to the playground. Winding pathways with birds houses and painted fish attached to the fence give the area a nice feel. The sunken amphitheatre provides a lovely place for a group of learners to sit and ponder life's deeper questions.

Walk East on 1st Ave to #814 1st Avenue...

Stop #13. Burger 320 and at the Seaside. A barber's striped poles graced the front of this little shop for many years. At some point along the way this simple mural of a beach scene was painted on the east side of the building. – certainly not part of a European village theme but very pleasing. After the Barbershop closed, Mario rented the space – 320 sq feet and first opened a pizza place then switched to Burgers, hence the name Burger 320. He painted the building to highlight his new burger business

Walk East on 1 Ave to #916 – LDV Pizza (formerly the La Dolce Vita restaurant)...

Stop #14 “LDV Art and Design” The design of the building's exterior certainly conveys the European Village theme...and is a great melding of architectural features – such as the opening windows, wrought iron railing and plantings - and the art on the walls. This is even more evident inside the restaurant with many classic style pictures painted on the walls – you are guaranteed to feel like you are visiting Europe when you eat here especially if you can reserve a window seat.

Proceed to the corner of 9 St and 1st Ave....

Stop #15 Polka Dot Road art - These intersections along 1 Ave have been considered difficult and even unsafe to cross especially at rush hour. To improve safety for

everyone, this artistic and structural intervention, conceived by Ali McMillan, was completed with city Roads Dept support in summer of 2018 on 8 corners by community volunteers. Also known as tactical urbanism, this project is intended to convey a narrowing the roadway and opening an area for walking and also to create a fun and interesting streetscape. Traffic moves more slowly than in the past and the idea has been adopted as a project for other communities.

Walk South to Memorial Drive and East along a path that runs inside the fence parallel to roadway past Silvera's Spruce community to each the one storey Rehab Society building. Walk North along the West facing wall....

Stop #16. Rehab Society Art. Graffiti on the walls of buildings in our community has been replaced by art. Here the members of the Rehab Society painted colourful images of Calgary

Turn North on 11 St and continue onward to a sidewalk & turn West/left and go past the baseball diamond....

Stop #17. "Connecting Back to the Bow "Fence Mural. In the earlier days of Bridgeland-Riverside, before an 8 lane freeway of Memorial Drive was built, the residents had easy access to the Bow River – for swimming, fishing and hanging out. This BRCA Beautification Committee wanted to bring back that connection in art on this plain chain link fence. This BRCA project, coordinated by Susan Mulholland was conceived and designed by local artist Janel Nail who mobilized many community volunteers to paint animals and scenes of the Bow River's journey..... from its source high in the Rocky Mountains, flowing through Calgary and Bridgeland, and into the prairies beyond. See the info board at the West end of the park for all the details.

You've now walked (or cycled) 4 kilometers and deserve to pause in Riverside Park.... sit at a picnic table or park bench and relax before walking back to the BRCA building.

We hope you've enjoyed some meaningful and pleasing community based art.