Meet the Olathe Public Art Committee

Chelsy Walker, Chair
Chelsy has spent the last 17 years of her career creating, educating, and advancing the arts. Her large outdoor sculptures can be found in Park City, Utah and Overland Park, Kansas. Walker has received several grants from the Office of Research and Creative Activities, as well as obtaining her Bachelor of Fine Arts with an emphasis in Sculpture from Brigham Young University. Currently she creates sculpture using aluminum, bronze, steel, and mixed media that centers on the family—past, present, and future. Chelsy can’t seem to get away from oil painting, either, and has a work on permanent display in Olathe City Hall. She enjoys living with her husband, kids, and a huge dog named Flint. Walker has served with the Olathe Public Art Committee for three years, and currently serves as Chair. She finds great joy volunteering in her community and in her church, and believes her best works of art are her son and daughter. Art for Chelsy is not something she does, but something she is. Art is her way of connecting, unifying, and celebrating the human family.

Cristina Walker, Vice Chair
Cristina Parra Walker (aka Cris) is a first-generation USA born Cuban-American born in Denver, Colorado who has lived in New Mexico, Maryland, Texas, and currently in Kansas. She also lived in Johannesburg, South Africa and London, England where she was able to further develop art skills through formal instruction. She is a Marketing Manager at DLR Group who loves communications, PR, graphics, interactive media, and fine art. Her mediums include watercolor, mixed media, nude painting and drawing, and pottery. Cris received her degree in Communications and a minor in Writing from Loyola University Maryland. Her volunteer work includes serving as Vice Chair of the Olathe Public Art Committee, Chair of the Olathe Christian Church Creatives, and the Cedar Creek Social Committee. More about Cris can be found at [www.crispywalker.com](http://www.crispywalker.com).

Carisa McMullen
Graduating from Kansas State University in 1993, Carisa is now the principal of Landworks Studio, a landscape architecture firm in downtown Olathe. Her past positions in both the municipal and private sectors helped to shape her career prior to launching Landworks Studio in 2000. Starting her career working for the City of Wichita, Carisa assisted with the development and then implementation of their 1% for Art Program, seeing artists contribute to several public infrastructure projects. While bringing an approach steeped in midwest sensibility is how she operates, providing engaging and comfortable outdoor places for everyone is what motivates her. Carisa appreciates the variety of viewpoints, clients, stakeholders and the public bring to every project and enjoys facilitating these opportunities early in every project. Carisa is currently serving on both the City of Olathe's Public Art Committee and the Johnson County Park and Recreation Department's Public Art Committee.

Whitney Williamson
Whitney Williamson is the Registrar at the Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art and began her career at the former Gallery of Art at Johnson County Community College in 2001. Williamson manages all temporary exhibition and permanent collection records, loans and logistics. She oversees the care of the permanent collection and coordinates conservation of major sculptures and artworks. Williamson received her MA (2005) and BFA (2000) degrees in Art History from the University of Kansas. She currently serves on the Johnson County Parks and Rec Public Art Committee and the Olathe Public Art Committee.

Martha Gabel
Martha is the Fine Arts Coordinator for Olathe Public Schools. She oversees and supports all of the District’s fine arts teachers and programs, including music, visual art, theatre, forensics, and debate.

Melissa Jobe

Rashawn Griffin