

The Positive Social Impact of *Public Art*

**Georgia Planning Association Fall Conference
Athens, Georgia
October 9, 2025**



What is Public Art?

1. Public art is not just about aesthetics
2. Public art broadens the scope and purpose of free expression in unconventional settings
3. Public art encourages collaboration to mitigate negative human experiences



Panelists



Christopher Swain
Public Art Coordinator
City of East Point



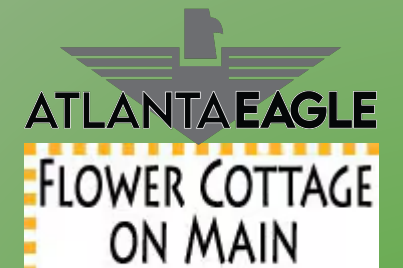
Geneasa L. Elias, AICP
Deputy Commissioner
Atlanta City Planning



Jon McKenley
Senior Community Affairs Manager
Microsoft



Tomas Betancourt
"Tommy Bronx"
Muralist



William Richard Ramey
Owner



The “Back-story”

*Public art overcomes perception
and improves quality of life for all.*



The City of East Point, Fulton County and Subway Present:

Standing Peachtree Native American Festival & Powwow

Hosted by Country Inn & Suites

August 19th - 20th, 2023
9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

East Point City Hall
2757 East Point Street
East Point, GA 30344

Free Admission
Food
Arts & Crafts
Dancing
Flute Music
Native Honor Guards
Demonstration

Lawn chairs permitted. Drugs, firearms, and alcohol prohibited.

"Major funding for this organization is provided by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners."




THE CITY OF EAST POINT PUBLIC ARTS DIVISION PRESENTS

Elevated Rhythms

"PUT ON YOUR DANCING SHOES AND JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF SOUL ELEVATING HOUSE MUSIC!"

Featuring House Music: Dee Jays
ST. N ZEFF
Kevin Latham
Koffa
Miami Wata

Saturday April 27, 2024
2:00pm - 8:00pm
East Point City Hall
2757 East Point Street
(Front Lawn)

TAMBOUR PARTY

FREE ADMISSION FREE PARKING FOOD TRUCK BEVERAGES




Employee Public Art Field Trip **FREE**

THE LEGACY MUSEUM
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 25, 2023

LEAVING FROM EAST POINT CITY HALL AT 10AM & RETURNING BY 6PM



The East Point Public Art Division Presents:

CONJURE

A Celebration of Melanated Male Magic

Featuring
Jon Goode- Storyteller Adan Bean- Poet
Egbe Ayan- Drummers Dr. McKinley Stinson- Marimba

Sunday, November 20, 2022
3:00 p.m.

East Point City Hall
2757 East Point Street
East Point, GA 30344

Bring Lawn Chairs




In recognition of National Hispanic Heritage Month,
the City of East Point Public Art Division presents:

Salsa IN THE CITY

SEPTEMBER 24, 2022 | 6:00-9:00 P.M.

FRONT LAWN OF CITY HALL
2757 EAST POINT ST. EAST POINT, GA

FREE EVENT FEATURES FOOD VENDORS, LIVE SALSA BAND, A SALSA DANCE INSTRUCTOR, AND A DJ TO KEEP THE MUSIC FLOWING!

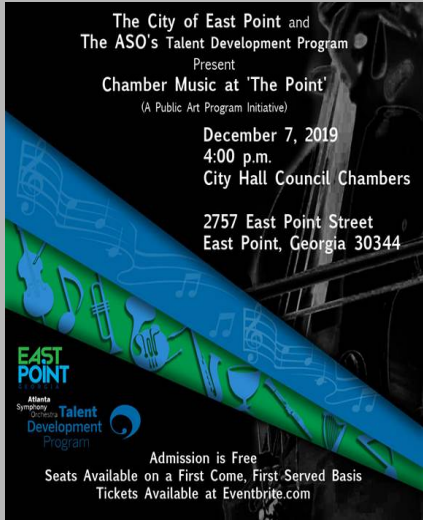




The City of East Point and
The ASO's Talent Development Program
Present
Chamber Music at 'The Point'
(A Public Art Program Initiative)

December 7, 2019
4:00 p.m.
City Hall Council Chambers

2757 East Point Street
East Point, Georgia 30344




KUSAMA INFINITY

THE LIFE AND ART OF YAYOI KUSAMA



flux projects
PRESENTS
HANNAH PALMER
GHOST POOLS

MEMORIAL DAY TO
LABOR DAY 2023

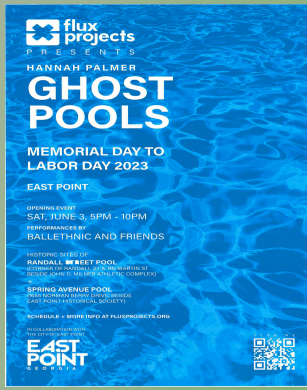
EAST POINT

SPRING AVENUE POOL
SAT. JUNE 3, 5PM - 10PM
PERFORMANCES BY
BALLETHNIC AND FRIENDS

PERFORMING ARTIST
RANDALL B. WEST POOL
PERFORMANCES BY
BALLETHNIC AND FRIENDS

SPRING AVENUE POOL
SAT. JUNE 3, 5PM - 10PM
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The City of East Point Public Arts Division
Presents:

Inked Point

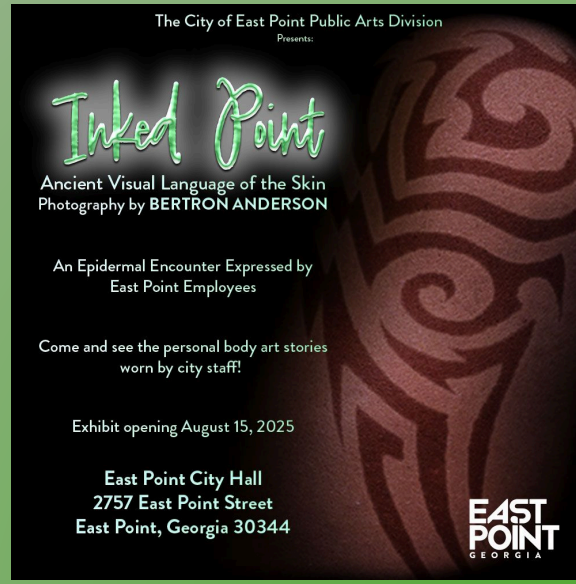
Ancient Visual Language of the Skin
Photography by BERTRON ANDERSON

An Epidermal Encounter Expressed by
East Point Employees

Come and see the personal body art stories
worn by city staff!

Exhibit opening August 15, 2025

East Point City Hall
2757 East Point Street
East Point, Georgia 30344





The “Back-story”

Public art builds relationships and does not have age limits.



CALL FOR ARTISTS!

\$750 PRIZE!

per selected design

TRAFFIC CONTROL BOX ART WRAP PROJECT

APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 7, 2023

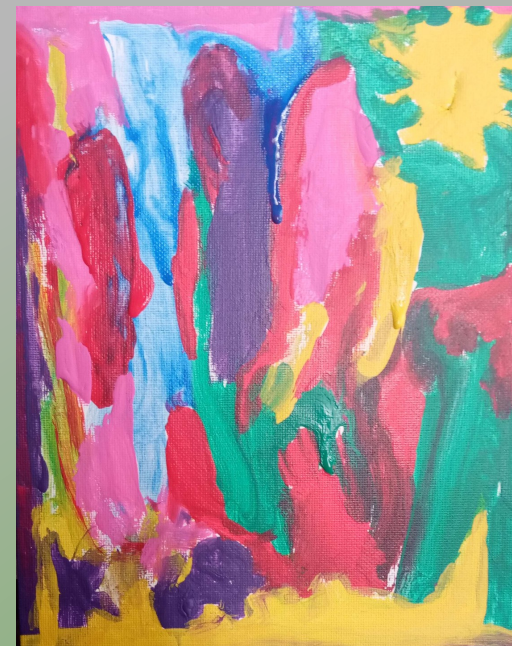
EAST POINT

The City of East Point Public Art Division in collaboration with East Point Power is excited to announce the launch of it's a Wrap, a program designed to transform ordinary traffic signal boxes into beautiful works of art to be enjoyed by all. This is a temporary public art initiative to wrap selected traffic signal boxes in unique designs with the goal of increasing beautification and reducing graffiti. Here's an opportunity for you to win some money and have your design showcased in the City of East Point. This opportunity is open to all artists, graphic designers, and creatives both professional and non-professional.

APPLY NOW: [BIT.LY/EPBOXARTWRAP](https://bit.ly/EPBOXARTWRAP)



Isabella "It's in Our Hands"



Dakari "Sun"



Noemi "Chinese Dragon"



Layla "Fantasy Deku"



The “Back-story”

Public art exhibits the richness of many cultures.







DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS
DAY OF THE DEAD

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2021
1:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.
FILM SCREENING OF DISNEY'S COCO AT 3:30 P.M.

EAST POINT CITY HALL
2757 EAST POINT STREET

EAST POINT
CLATSOP COUNTY



**Standing Peachtree
Native American Festival
& Powwow**

August 20-21, 2022
9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

East Point City Hall
2757 East Point Street
East Point, GA 30344

Free Admission
Food
Arts & Crafts
Dancing
Flute Music
Native Honor Guards
Demonstration

 **EAST POINT**

Lawn chairs permitted. Drugs, firearms, and alcohol prohibited.



Bridging the Gaps

Planning for All



FREE EVENT! ATLANTA EAGLE & CITY OF EAST POINT PRESENTS

SAT JUN.22
7pm - 10pm

BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS, COOLERS AND JOIN US ON THE STEPS OF EAST POINT CITY HALL.

PRISSY CHILLA & SHENITTA LOTT, THE ORIGINAL POSSUMS

DRAG DOWN South 24

HOSTED BY: RICHARD RAMEY & BUBBA DEE

Shawna Brooks Misti Shores Lena Lust Myah Rose Monroe Lucie Bruce Brigitte Bidel Nicole Paige Brooks
Tatiana Tuesday Dickerson Niesha Dupree Malaysia Black Gigi Nicole Bianca Nicole
Elee Atlanta Tristan Panucci Dupree Tatiana Dejour Ariana D Monroe Nona Lott Moore-Brown

ATLANTA EAGLE
EAST POINT
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS
DAVID
Georgia Arts
Corona PREMIER



The “Back-story”

Public art can be created as an historical tribute and encourage corporate community investment.






BLACK HISTORY MURAL Project

Mural Unveiling Ceremony

Food, DJ, and Speakers
 February 1st, 10:30AM
 Location: 1823 Washington RD.
 East Point, GA 30344

Microsoft alphagraphics





The decision of the Shining Light Foundation and the City of East Point to paint a wall mural of Celia Cruz on one of my shop's walls, and Microsoft's sponsorship of this effort, have had a profound impact on me as a Cuban immigrant and small business owner. It is more than just a piece of art; it represents a powerful symbol of cultural pride and resilience. Seeing Celia Cruz, an iconic figure as the Queen of Salsa who embodies the spirit and grace of Cuban culture, celebrated in such a public way filled me with a sense of pride and connection to my roots. **Jose Manuel Jimenez, Owner Alpha Graphics Tri-Cities – Atlanta Airport**

In a time where cultural erasure is a real and painful threat, the Shining Light Foundation stands strong as a guardian of Black culture, expression, and memory. Their work is not just decorative—it's essential. They uplift local artists, honor great African-American men and women of history and provide a canvas for stories that must never be forgotten.

Cheryl Dunn

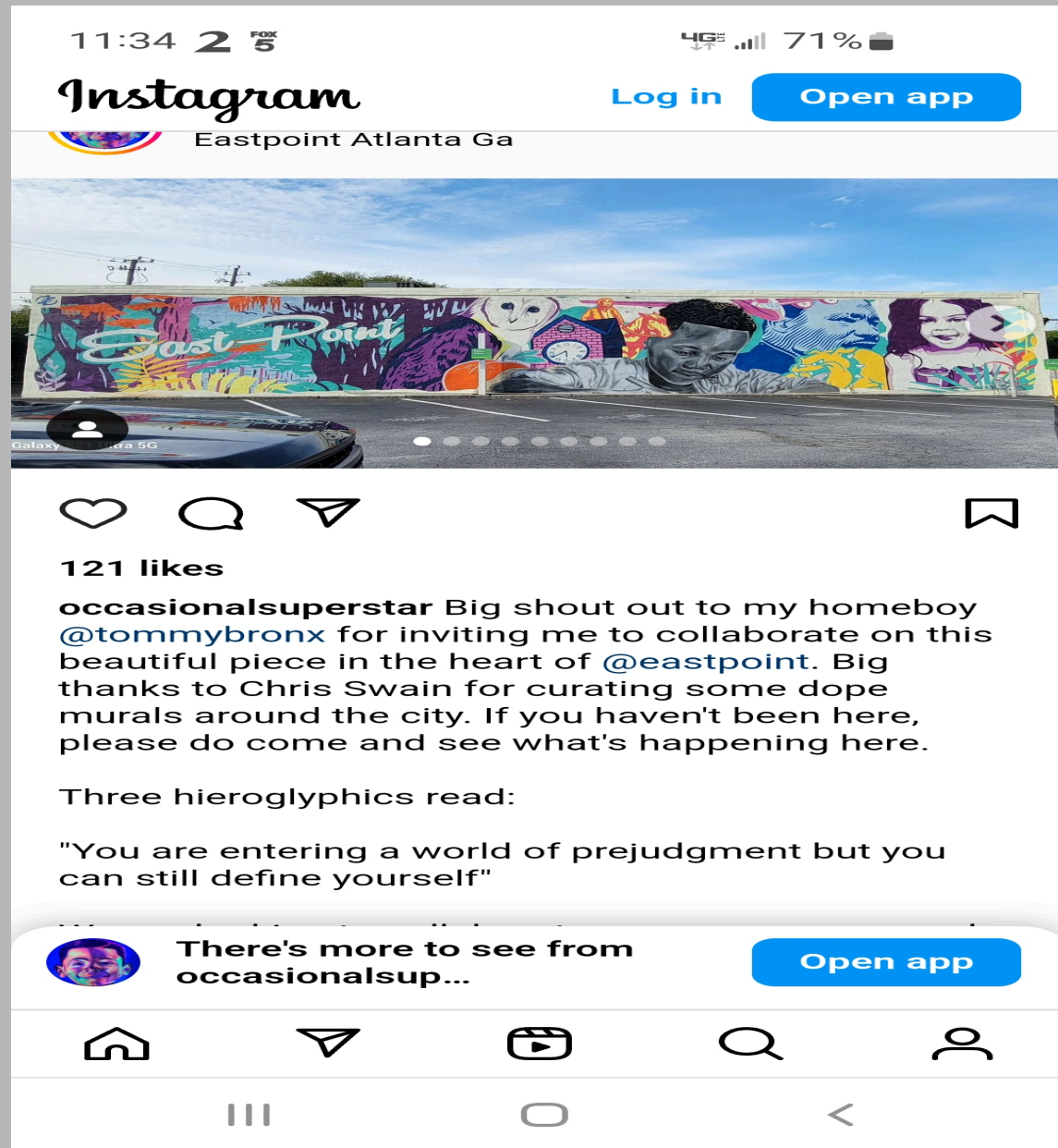


The “Back-story”

Public art is compassion and empathy in trying times.













Questions & Answers

