

Discover the Vibrant Art Scene in Friday Harbor

Our town embraces visual, literary, and performing arts. We are proud of the many opportunities for island residents and visitors to enjoy and participate in them.

Visual Arts

San Juan Islands Museum of Art hosts multiple exhibits. Several town buildings and restaurants display rotating and permanent art exhibits.

The town's many galleries showcase the talents of island artists as well as regional and Native American artists.

Performing Arts

San Juan Community Theatre presents a variety of events year-round including locally produced plays and musicals, dance performances, chamber music, choral music, high school/middle school productions, and touring artists.

Island Stage Left, the San Juans' professional theatre company, performs contemporary and classical plays "under the stars" and at indoor venues.

Restaurants and bars feature live music, usually by local artists. Free outdoor concerts are held during the summer at both the San Juan Historical Museum and the Port of Friday Harbor's waterfront park.



Witness the Beauty by Jake Wagoner

Literary Arts

The island is home to a variety of writing groups and book clubs and four Poetry Gardens displaying poems by local authors. The public library sponsors Open Mic for writers, writing workshops, author events, and youth book clubs. The bookstore hosts new works by island authors.

Film

The Palace Theatre shows first-run films throughout the year. The Friday Harbor Film Festival features diverse documentary films at a three-day event in the fall and access to "best of the fest" films year round. The San Juan Community Theatre has been known to stream performances of the Metropolitan Opera, the Bolshoi Ballet, and London's National Theatre.

Art Event Information

San Juan Island Chamber of Commerce:
www.sanjuanisland.org

San Juan Islands Visitors Bureau:
www.visitsanjuans.com

San Juan County Arts Council:
www.sanjuancountyarts.org

Weekly newspaper: *Journal of the San Juans*

Online news: www.sanjuanjournal.com
www.sanjuanislander.com



The Friday Harbor Arts Commission created this guide to encourage island residents and visitors to enjoy the town's art scene. The Commission, formed in 2014, consists of seven members plus one youth member appointed by the Mayor to advise the Town Council on the selection, acquisition, placement, and stewardship of public art.

Believing that art in all its forms is essential to the quality of life in Friday Harbor, the Commission's mission is to support excellence, vitality, accessibility, and diversity of the arts within the town.

The Commission is committed to securing public input on proposed installations and working collaboratively with other island organizations and individuals.

Acknowledgments

Cover Art, clockwise from top left: Matthew Gray Palmer, Susan Point, Micajah Bienvenu, Thomas Christopher Haag, Steve Benito and Dan Lobue, David Ridgway, Annie Howell-Adams
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Complete public art catalog



Poetry Gardens ebook

Town of Friday Harbor
www.fridayharbor.org
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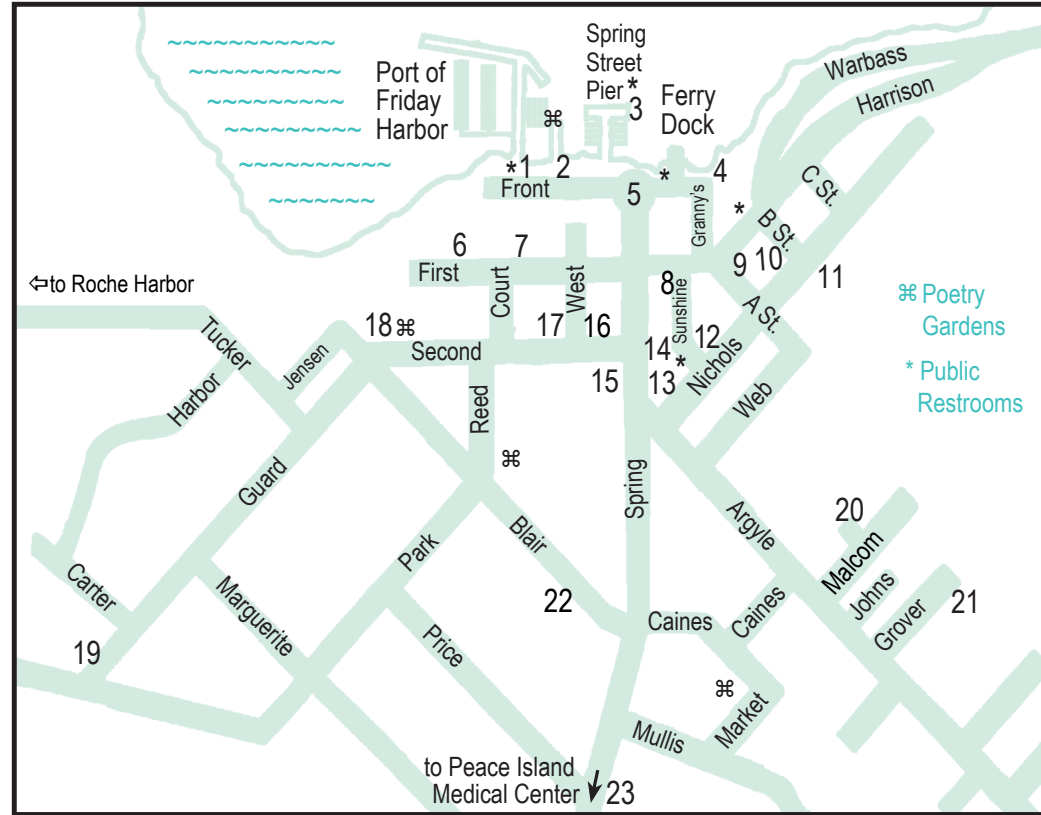
Discover ART in Friday Harbor



The Friday Harbor Arts Commission invites residents and visitors to enjoy these works of art – all by current or former San Juan Island artists unless otherwise noted.

- 1. Sculpture of Harbor Seal** Matthew Gray Palmer's granite *Popeye* honors the Port of Friday Harbor's resident seal, who is easily recognized by her white left eye.
- 2. Coast Salish House Posts** Canadian artist Susan Point's *Interaction* uses carved and painted red cedar, copper, bronze, and silver. It is the first public acknowledgment of the island's tribal heritage.
- 3. Tile Mural** Artists Chinmayo and Beth Spadafora and 350 school children created *Welcome Wall* for the Port of Friday Harbor's 50th anniversary.
- 4. Abstract Sculpture** Micajah Bienvenu's *Old Growth* is crafted from stainless steel.
- 5. World War I Monument** This 1921 granite monument honors the nine San Juan County servicemen who died during WWI. Created by Puget Sound Marble and Granite Company of Seattle, this was one of the first of its kind in the state.
- 6. Mural** (behind the American Legion building, facing the harbor) Mike Scott's abstract work, inspired by the American flag, is a tribute to our enlisted men and women.
- 7. Mural** On the southeast side of the Whale Museum, Alaskan artist Lindsay Carron's *Connected* depicts J and L pod orcas, salmon, and forage fish.
- 8 a. Bronze Sculpture** Shelton, WA, artist Gareth Curtiss was commissioned by the Town to create *Edward Warbass and Bob*.
b. Haida Wood Carving The thunderbird displayed on the Sunshine Alley side of Coldwell Banker was carved by an unknown Haida artist in British Columbia in the 1960s.

TOWN of FRIDAY HARBOR



- 9. Sculpture of Whale Tail** Micajah Bienvenu's polished aluminum *Fluke* sits high on a rock outcropping at the top of the ferry hill.
- 10. Mural** The island's indigenous cedar waxwing is the centerpiece of Kirkland, WA, artist Jake Wagoner's *Witness the Beauty*, a work in Sunken Park commissioned by the Town.
- 11. Milled Steel Sculpture** Bellingham artist Scott Sayers' *Shared Axis* is located on the lawn near ferry Lot B.
- 12. Sculpture of Pig** Matthew Gray Palmer's whimsical *PIG* at Brickworks celebrates the historic site of Friday Harbor Brick and Tile Company and the one casualty of the Pig War.

- 13. Mural** Annie Howell-Adams created the 14 aluminum panels on the side wall of ACE Hardware depicting 100 years of commercial fishing in the San Juans.
- 14. Carved Stone** The Town's Breezeway Park features an olivine stone table and granite bench and chair carved by Tom Small and rotating installations of wall art.
- 15. Murals** Outside Friday Harbor Drug Store is Lanny Little's painting of the store's interior based on a circa 1920s photograph. To its left is *For Love of an Island* created by former Shaw Islander Tom Brudenell and local residents for the 1972 centennial celebration of the Pig War.

- 16. Bronze Sculptures** Whidbey Island artist Georgia Gerber's *Red Fox* and *Paired Owls* were acquired by the Town for installation on the corner of Second and West Streets.
- 17. Centennial Oil Paintings** (inside Town Hall) In celebration of Friday Harbor's centennial year, Waterworks Gallery sponsored a "Paint the Town" competition, won by R.W. See's *Friday Harbor* and Orcas artist David Ridgway's *Malcolm and Argyle*.
- 18. Sculpture of Dancer** Micajah Bienvenu's stainless steel *Dancing Fool V* and benches stand outside San Juan Community Theatre.
- 19. Stone Sculpture** Tom Small's *Birdbath* was commissioned as a gift to the island's public library.
- 20. Murals** Surina Business Park includes murals by one-time island artist Thomas Christopher Haag and a doorway mosaic of handcrafted tiles by Steve Benito and Dan Lobue.
- 21. Art at Friday Harbor Elementary School** Art pieces include *Puddles*, Tom Pemberton's life-size bronze of children in the rain, and murals, mosaics, and totem poles created by children, parents, and teachers.

- 22 a. Sculpture of Orca Fin** At Friday Harbor Grand, Micajah Bienvenu's *Fintastic* uses stainless steel, acrylic, and LED lighting to pay homage to our threatened resident orcas.
b. Mural The Town commissioned Poulsbo, WA, artists Cory Bennett and Josh Fisher to create *A Living Island* on a 235-foot wall along Blair Avenue.
- 23. Sculptures** On the grounds of Peace Island Medical Center are four works: Orcas Island artist Anthony Howe's kinetic stainless steel mobile *Beeku*, Royce Meyerott's granite *Convergence* and *Stone Hinge*, and Tom Small's granite and glass monolith *Sunrise*.