

P (ARTS & CULTURE) PORTLAND



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Portland Monuments Project

Historic Landmarks Commission
Progress Update — February 2025



RECAP OF PROJECT

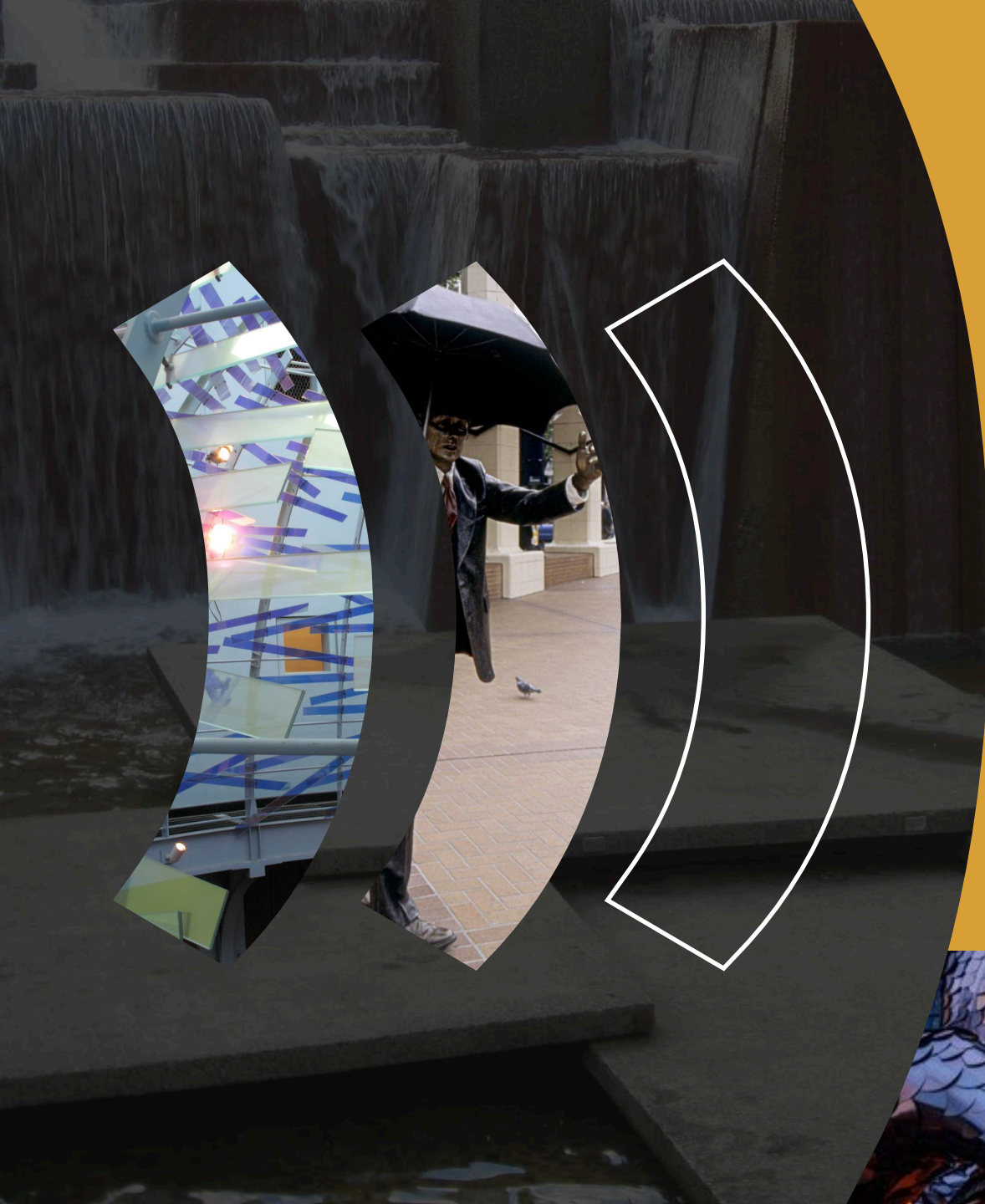
Overview of the Portland
Monuments Project,
purpose and goals



PROJECT ACTIVITIES

FEBRUARY 2024 – FEBRUARY 2025

- **March 2024** – City Council adopted a new public art and monuments policy providing a framework for decision-making.
- **September 2024** – The Mellon Foundation approved project modifications, expanding support and partnerships. Completed yearlong Monument Cities Network cohort.
- **October 2024** – The City hosted the Portland Monuments Symposium, engaging over 100 participants in discussions about the future of public monuments.



PROJECT ACTIVITIES CON'T

FEBRUARY 2024 – FEBRUARY 2025

- **November 2024** – The Abraham Lincoln Monument was sent for repairs; additional damage was discovered, extending the restoration timeline.
- **February 2025** – Portland State University (PSU) published a report summarizing public feedback from the symposium.



MONUMENTS SYMPOSIUM

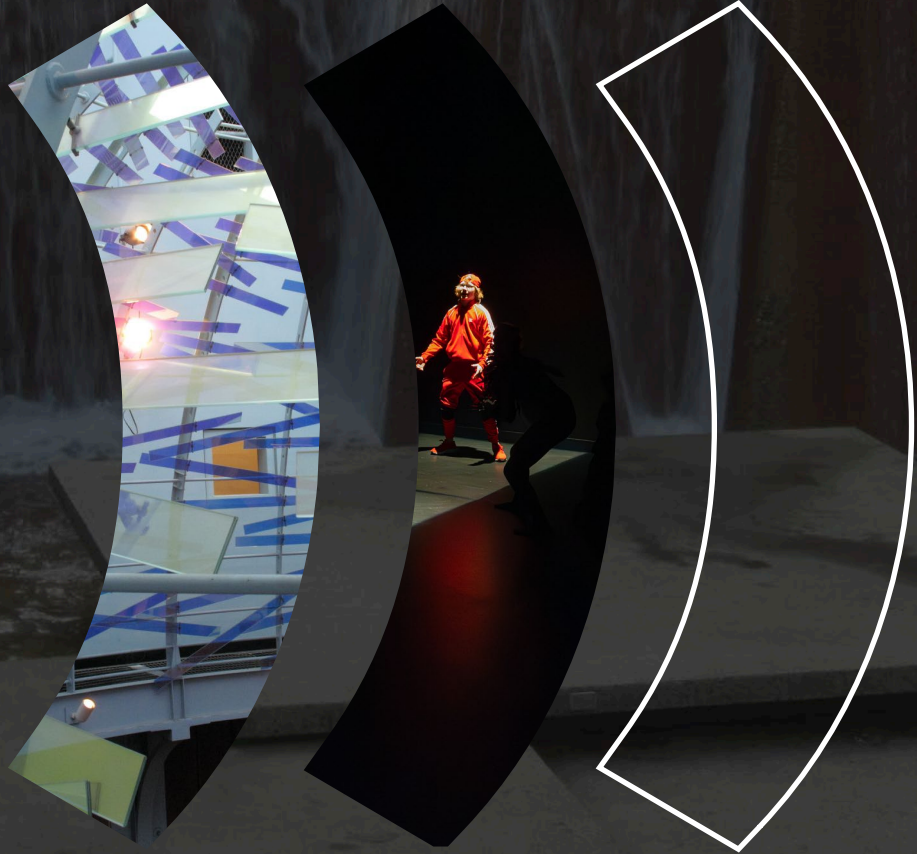
Lessons and learnings from
the PMP Symposium



WHAT WE HEARD

2024 Portland Monuments Symposium

- **Monument Policy & Decision-Making:**
 - The community wants clear and transparent criteria for keeping, removing, or modifying monuments.
 - Public input should be ongoing rather than a one-time engagement process.
- **Community & Cultural Perspectives:**
 - There is a need for Indigenous and BIPOC representation in public commemorations.
 - Many want to see temporary and rotating installations to introduce new perspectives.
- **Role of Artists in Public Memory:**
 - Artists play a key role in reimagining what monuments can be.



STATUS OF MONUMENTS

Conservation & Reinterpretation Updates



**ARTS &
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Conservation & Reinterpretation Updates

- **The Abraham Lincoln** – The Monument was sent for repairs in November 2024; additional damage was discovered in January, extending the restoration timeline.
- **Theodore Roosevelt** – Following completion of the Abraham Lincoln monument, the statue of President Roosevelt will be sent for repairs this year.
- **George Washington** – The Monument of President Washington is in storage, City of Portland contractor RACC has identified a conservator, and is moving forward with contracting to begin repairs this year. Arts & Culture is planning public engagement to identify a new home.



Conservation & Reinterpretation Updates

- **Harvey Scott** – The City has begun the formal deaccession process with RACC.
- **Promised Land** – The City has begun the formal deaccession process with RACC. Discussions underway with the City of John Day and the artist's family for a potential transfer of ownership, and a potential rural urban partnership.
- **York** – Currently in fabrication; anticipated completion later this year. Arts & Culture is planning public engagement to identify a new home.
- **Reinterpretations** – Oregon Historical Society has provided Arts & Culture a list of historians, and the City is actively working to finalize contracting.



PORTLAND MONUMENTS PROJECT

Next Steps & Timeline



Next Steps & Timeline

- Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
- Converge 45
- Literary Arts
- Mount Vernon Ladies' Association
- Native American Youth & Family Center (NAYA)
- Native Arts & Cultures Foundation
- Oregon Black Pioneers
- Oregon Historical Society (OHS)
- Portland Institute for Contemporary Art (PICA)
- Portland Parks Foundation
- Portland State University



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Closing & Questions



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THANK YOU!