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Public Art Reston takes part in first-ever Tour de Hunter Mill community bike ride

RESTON, VA — Public Art Reston is excited to be playing a special part in the inaugural Tour de Hunter Mill community bike ride on Saturday, May 15. Starting and ending at the Reston Community Center at Hunter Woods, the linchpin of the Tour's Family Route, which is less than five miles, will be six stops in Reston featuring public artworks.

Entirely within the Reston Association pathway system, the stops will include: *Thoreau's Ensemble* by Ben Volta at Colts Neck Road underpass, *Pileated Woodpecker* bike racks by Dana Anne Scheurer and the nearby Memorial Sun Dial by Wayne Hughes both at Walker Nature Center, *Horseshoes* bike racks by David Showalter and Alexandra Stambaugh at the Pony Barn Picnic Pavilion, *Outdoor Wall Mural* by Mike Pilato and 6th grade students at Hunters Woods Elementary School, and *Emerge* by Valerie Theberge at the Glade Drive underpass.

Along with a registration packet, all Family Route participants will receive a Public Art Passport. Riders who get their bookmark-size passports stamped by volunteers at all six artworks will receive a public art goodie bag with fun items and activities to enjoy after the ride when they stop by the Public Art Reston table. Those who prefer to walk along the Family Route rather than ride may also enjoy visiting public art to get a passport stamped.

The tour, held rain or shine, also offers two other, more demanding bike rides: a 15-mile route that takes the W&OD trail to Vienna for the first rest stop and then takes quiet roads and trails over to the Spring Hill Metro station in Tysons Corner, and a 20-mile route with an additional five miles covering paved trails, quiet roads, and roads with bike infrastructure to return to the W&OD and ride back to Reston.

Tour de Hunter Mill participants will be welcomed by Supervisor Walter Alcorn at 8:30 a.m. The Family Route ride starts between 9:15 and 10 a.m. Long Route Riders will start between 8:30 and 9:15 a.m. Whatever route participants take, all will be welcomed back to post-ride food, fun, and prizes at the Reston Community Center at Hunters Woods between 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The ride will be adhering to the Virginia Department of Health's recommendations for social gatherings. Masks must be worn at all times while at the Reston Community Center, each rest stop and within the Metro system if riders take that option. All riders, staff, volunteers and attendees must remain six feet apart when they are not riding a bike. Helmets are required for the ride.

Originally sold out, more registrations are now available for the Tour, which has been expanded in response to Virginia easing restrictions on public gatherings. Fee is \$25 per adult (16 and older). If you are registering as a family (up to five people), purchase one ticket per adult and send an email to huntermill@fairfaxcounty.gov. to inquire about family pricing. For other information and to register visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/huntermill/2021-

tour-de-hunter-mill. For more information about the Tour's Public Art Reston stops, visit its gallery of artworks at www.publicartreston.org and while you are there sign up for the organization's newsletter.

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