



For immediate release / August 31, 2015

MEDIA RELEASE

Many hands make great art!

[Calgary, Canada] — The power of many will be evident this September when the first three of six community-built projects will take to the streets during Beakerhead, all made possible with funding from the Calgary Foundation.

In May, Beakerhead issued a design call for community-built creations that could be a part of this year's Beakerhead. Three were selected to be a part of Beakerhead this September.

"We were impressed by the way these projects engaged the community in creating cultural experiences that treat science and engineering as a welcoming part of everyday life," says Beakerhead president and co-founder Mary Anne Moser.

All three community projects will be displayed on Stephen Avenue Walk at Beakerhead's Four-to-Six events (from 4 – 6 pm) on September 16, 17 and 18.

The first premiering at Beakerhead, called MakerBus is a collaborative project involving people of various ages and skills both in the making of the bus and, most importantly, as users of the MakerBus. The bus is a workshop on wheels that will be onsite at various Beakerhead events. The former commuter bus can hold eight people at a time "working" on projects at the tables, with additional outdoor activities such as airbrush painting. The MakerBus is a creation of Calgaryian Jim Akeson. Along with afternoons on Stephen Avenue Walk, visitors can hop on the bus to make things when the MakerBus is stationed at Station B at Fort Calgary on September 19 and 20.

Funding from the Calgary Foundation will also support the design and build of a site-specific installation called Orange Crush, where pedestrians will be invited to walk through a squishy, synthetic passageway made from 1,000 pool noodles. The installation is orchestrated by a team of architects, designers and engineers from Calgary's Tomorrow Architecture Collective and Saskatoon's OPEN. The project has incorporated youth outreach involvement with Scouts Canada.

Gearing up to premiere at Beakerhead 2016 is a project called Mobile Camera Obscura, which brings together ACAD students, alumni and community members, led by ACAD instructor Mitch Kern. Breathing a new life to a camper trailer, the team will construct a camera obscura that allows visitors to enter and experience the not widely known way our brain (and cameras!) processes visual information. The Camera Obscura operates upon the same principle as the human eye and help viewers understand the science of perception and perceptual adaptation. The work-in-progress trailer will also be at Tomkins Park on 17 Ave SW all day September 20.

A call to support three more projects will be issued this fall. Calgaryians are encouraged to think about what they might want to build for Beakerhead 2016.

Media Contact

Michelle Htun-Kay at 1-403-971-5180 or michelle@beakerhead.com