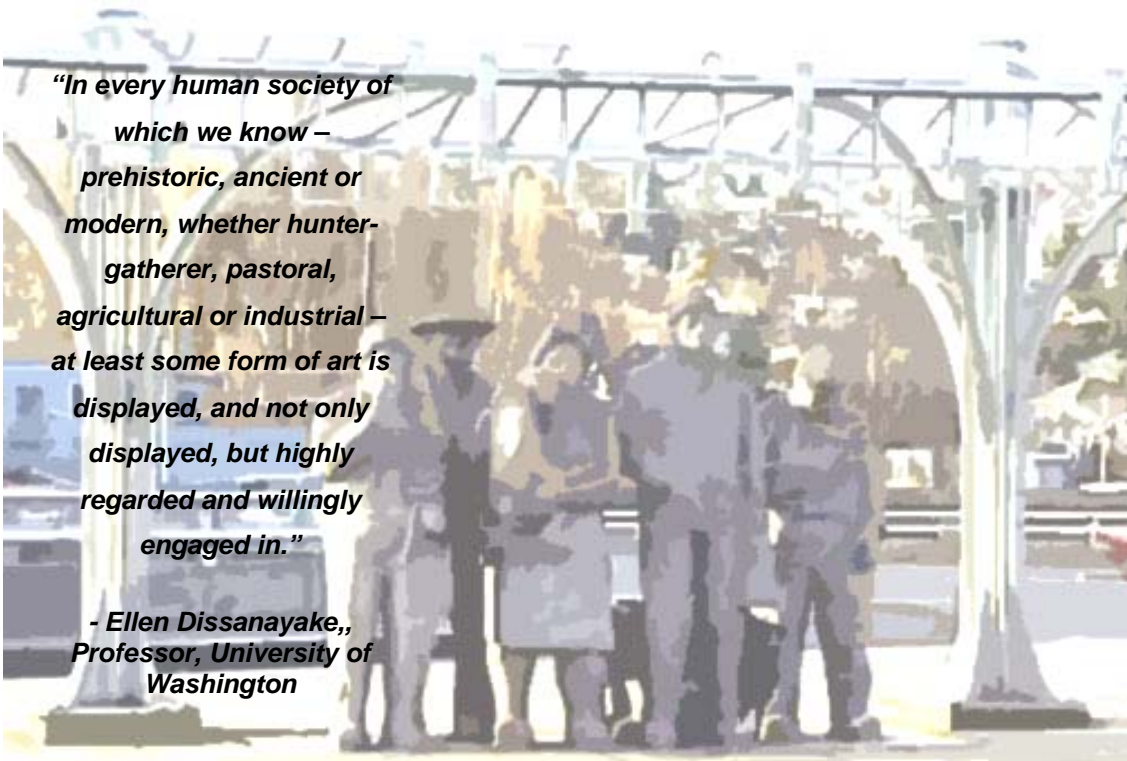


"In every human society of which we know – prehistoric, ancient or modern, whether hunter-gatherer, pastoral, agricultural or industrial – at least some form of art is displayed, and not only displayed, but highly regarded and willingly engaged in."

- Ellen Dissanayake,, Professor, University of Washington



CHAPTER 7: ART & CULTURE

7.1 Arts

There is a strong need to bring the arts to Keyport both as part of the community aesthetic and as a component of Keyport's economic development. Opportunities to bring the arts to Keyport could be done through a focus on local arts and artists. This can be done by attracting the artists through resources such as small galleries or studios, encouraging live / work spaces, public art installations, art walks or events, and artist residencies. The goal of attracting artists to the community, and focusing attention on the local artists would be an important part of this solution.

Specific Art suggestions include:

- Artists, art galleries, and art studios could be encouraged within the community to create a creative economic environment for Keyport. Local

artists and craftsmen can be promoted through locally-owned businesses, such as galleries. Artists and craftsmen can be attracted to the area with the provision of affordable live/work spaces within town.

- Public Art can create an identity for Keyport, and provide an opportunity for the local artists and craftsmen to produce works for public display. They can provide an identity for the community by referencing the heritage of the area through the content matter depicted in the art. Public Art can include murals or mosaics on infrastructure buildings, community kiosks, statues, unique street furniture, etc. Local artists can be commissioned to create these works with funds from grants; they can also be created as community projects through programs at the community center.
- Art events, can be created in the community to bring together the local arts community to showcase their work to the surrounding community, while maintaining the small town, rural village atmosphere.
- Art classes can be provided at community centers, and during summer open-air sessions to encourage the creation of art among the residents of Keyport, taught by local artists.
- Artist residencies could be created within the Keyport area, to provide the opportunity for artists from other areas to generate their creativity within the town. They could provide public art, and art lessons to the community.

7.2 Culture

Historically music and social culture events were a regular occurrence in Keyport from the Saturday night socials at the local grange hall to the Navy concerts at the Naval Undersea Museum. Additional sponsored events in the Keyport community, such as a music by the bay or similar summertime gatherings may be occasions that could be celebrated by the community as well as generate tourist interest in Keyport as a destination.

Presently, Keyport's community centers bring together area residents for various events, from potlucks to the annual Fourth of July parade are the larger community events that take place within Keyport and help to create the cherished village atmosphere and character. The Naval Undersea Museum provides educational opportunities for the immediate and surrounding community.

Cultural Proposals for Keyport

The proposed cultural improvements for Keyport could include events such as a farmers market, small musical concerts, and children's puppet shows and activities that would be small enough to be enjoyed and not have adverse impacts on the community. Other cultural improvements can include additional

activities such as community theater, outdoor movies, classes, lectures or talks, and events that appeal to the residents of Keyport.

- Farmers market can provide the Keyport community with opportunities to purchase produce directly from the farmer. The market can also host artists, cooking competitions, salmon/crab/clam bakes, and wine/beer fests.
- Musical concerts can be provided to the public at various venues, such as the park, the Naval Undersea Museum, the waterfront, or the community centers such as the firehouse.
- Activities for children can be provided by parks and recreation at local parks and the Port facilities during the summer.

7.3 Arts & Culture Goal & Policies

Goal 20 Encourage local support for a creative and economic environment that allows artists to continue to live and work in and for the community.

Policy Key-36 Create a stimulating visual environment through the public and private artworks programs, and create a greater understanding and appreciation of art and artists through community dialogue, education and involvement.

Policy Key-37 Advocate for the inclusion of quality public art in projects built by both private developers and public agencies, promote quality design in both the natural and built environments and use artists on design teams

Goal 21 Preserve and share the community's unique setting, character, history, arts and culture by developing partnerships, resources and attractions that respect the needs and desires of Keyport residents.

Policy Key-38 Identify and record Keyport's "Sense of Place" through a continuous public dialogue about the influence of the arts, history, and culture.

Policy Key-39 Use artistic, historic, and cultural events as vehicles for sharing Keyport's uniqueness with residents and visitors while cultivating partnerships among the local artists, organizations and those interested in the arts, economic development, tourism, and historic preservation.

Policy Key-40 Identify local artists and publicize their value to the community through opportunities for public dialogue, and online database, and directory of artists, and residency programs, with support through non-profit organizations.

7.4 Arts & Culture Key Projects

Keyport Public Art Project

The installation of a public art project could provide the Keyport community with a unique opportunity to reflect utilizing local artist and generate additional interest in identification of Keyport as a “destination”. Public art projects could include murals or mosaics on the public sewer pump stations and well houses through the Kitsap County 1% for arts program. Similar public art projects could include a community kiosk, unique street lights or street furniture along Washington Avenue, signature lighting announcing the Port of Keyport, or possibly a statue or gateway monument or sign design announcing the entrances to Keyport.

Local non-profit groups, agencies, and organizations such as the Pomegranate Center, Washington's Artist Trust Organization, the Kitsap County Arts Board, the Washington State Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development and other organizations could all be instrumental in assisting the Keyport Improvement Group, Port of Keyport, and the Keyport community in pursuing art and culture opportunities.



Figure 7.4.1 Possible examples of Keyport public art projects