WHEREAS, public art is the result of a process creating original works of art that can be site specific or integrated into the work of other design professionals, including the design and physical development of buildings, structures, parks, plazas, or other public spaces; and

WHEREAS, public art is freely accessible and can celebrate a city’s history, aspirations and diverse cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, public art will enhance visitor experiences and provide unique opportunities for cultural growth, exchange and learning; and

WHEREAS, public art will enhance the quality of life for the residents of Columbus; and

WHEREAS, this Executive Order authorizes the establishment of the city of Columbus Public Art Program to be administered by the Department of Development. The Department of Development will work collaboratively with the Department of Public Utilities, Department of Public Service, Department of Recreation and Parks, Department of Finance and Management, and the Columbus Art Commission to identify public art opportunities and manage the city’s public art collection; and

WHEREAS, in times of budgetary stress, funding for public art projects may be reduced or suspended until budget strength is restored; and

WHEREAS, public art shall be incorporated into major city building, park and infrastructure projects, as described below;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael B. Coleman, Mayor of the City of Columbus, declare and institute this Executive Order authorizing the following:

I direct the Department of Development to establish a Public Arts Program.

FURTHER, I direct the Department of Finance and Management to allocate a minimum of $250,000 in the annual Capital Improvements Budget to create a Public Arts Fund for the provision of a Public Arts Program subject to Council approval. The monies held in the Public Arts Fund may be pooled and carried over from year to year.
FURTHER, I direct the Department of Public Service, the Department of Recreation and Parks, and the Director of the Department of Finance and Management to provide annual funding to maintain public art installations. Therefore, in addition to the provision of the Public Arts Fund in the Capital Improvements Budget, the Director of Finance and Management shall establish a separate annual fund for the maintenance of the city's public art collection. The Director of the Department of Finance and Management shall allocate $20,000 in such maintenance fund for 2014.

FURTHER, I direct the participating departments to work with the Director of the Department of Finance and Management to integrate public art into the design and construction of all significant capital projects, including but not limited to buildings, structures, major infrastructure, parks, plazas, or other public spaces, and to budget for these art design improvements in the overall construction budget of such capital projects, as appropriate and with sound fiscal discretion, with funds independent of the Public Art Program.

FURTHER, I authorize and direct the participating city departments to appoint a staff representative to work with the Department of Development and the Department of Finance and Management in identifying capital improvement projects for potential public art enhancements, including budget, scope and schedule.

FURTHER, I direct the Director of the Department of Development to evaluate, on a case-by-case basis, the inclusion of a percent set-aside for public art in Tax Increment Financing agreements negotiated by the city; the proceeds from which will be placed in a separate account for the purpose of advancing the City of Columbus Public Arts Program as provided herein.

FURTHER, I direct the Columbus Art Commission, in working with the Department of Development, to develop an annual public art report. The report shall include budgets and schedules for newly identified projects. The plan will be submitted to Council as an annual report.

FINALLY, I direct the Department of Development to work with the Columbus Art Commission to create a city-wide Public Art Master Plan in 2015, through the usual and customary legislative process. The Public Art Master Plan shall engage the public in developing a comprehensive, ten-year strategy for the Public Art Program that shall include citywide goals and priorities, and identify key locations and opportunities for public art.

This order shall be in full force and effect after my signature is affixed to this document.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set My hand and caused the Great Seal of the Mayor of the City of Columbus, Ohio to be hereon affixed this 4th day of February, 2014

Michael B. Coleman
Mayor

Effective February 4, 2014