



## Cuyahoga Valley National Park Association



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### **Cleveland Artist, Don Harvey, Creates Artwork with Local Teens for New Store in Cuyahoga Valley National Park**

**Peninsula, Ohio** - Don Harvey, prominent Cleveland artist, activist, and educator, recently collaborated with high school students from Akron Public Schools to create exciting community based art for the Cuyahoga Valley National Park Association (CVNPA). Harvey and twelve urban youth spent two weeks on unique outdoor seating, tables, and sculptural lattice work to install at the new village of Boston store, *Trail Mix*.

The recently renovated CVNPA store, *Trail Mix*, located along the Towpath Trail in historic Peninsula will house the original seating and eco-inspired public sculptures, which are made from recycled bicycle parts donated by the Ohio City Bike Co-Op. The artwork created on-site and in studios at the Myers School of Art, provides a fun and inviting setting for visitors to the Boston village area and for those hiking and biking along the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail.

Harvey is known for studio work and public art that reflects his interest in the conjunction of built and natural environments. Harvey is Emeritus Professor of Art at The University of Akron, and adjunct faculty at the Art Department of Oberlin College. His works are featured in public and private collections around the country including the Akron Art Museum; the Cleveland Museum of Art; the International Spy Museum in Washington, DC; the Mint Museum in Charlotte, NC; and Progressive Corporation, University Hospitals in Cleveland.

Student apprentices, Elizabeth Aronhalt, Tameka Bayless, Cody Bond, Julie Botnick, Tameiyah Calhoun, Chialla Geib, Marissa Harper, Paul Levack, Christian James, Joe McGee, Sarah Samels, and Camilla Turner participated in the summer community-based arts program, Arts LIFT, run by The University of Akron Myers School of Art. The program, made possible by a fund from the late Akron artist and patron, Lola Isroff, is entering its sixth year of operation.

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A public celebration for the unveiling of the sculptural installation will take place on Thursday, July 26, from 5 to 7 p.m. at *Trail Mix*, 1565 Boston Mills Road in the village of Boston. The celebration will include a performance by musicians from The University of Akron Steel Drum Band. *Trail Mix* will provide food, refreshments, and free ice cream at the event. Information and historical exhibits for visitors to Cuyahoga Valley National Park and Towpath Trail are available in the store.

For more information about Don Harvey's work, the Arts LIFT program or the public event, please contact Diana Watt at the Myers School of Art at [dwatt@uakron.edu](mailto:d watt@uakron.edu) or (330) 972-6030.

