



## NEWS ADVISORY

Sept. 29, 2015

For immediate release

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### **Pineview Park Public Art to be Dedicated Saturday, Oct. 3**

The City of Missoula Public Art Committee invites the public to the dedication of “Rattlesnake Ripple,” a ceramic mural by local artist Alison Reintjes, on Saturday, Oct. 3, at 11 a.m. in Pineview Park. The park is located west of Rattlesnake School off Rattlesnake Drive.

Mayor John Engen, Alison Reintje, and Rattlesnake Neighborhood Council Member Bill Bevis will speak at the dedication.

“Rattlesnake Ripple” is the newest work added to the City’s collection of public artworks. The Public Art Committee and representatives of the Rattlesnake neighborhood worked together to issue the art call, review the proposals and select Reintjes to complete the installation.

Reintjes was commissioned \$10,000 to create the work. The project’s funding was the product of a successful public-private partnership, with \$5,600 allocated from Missoula’s Percent for Art Ordinance and \$4,400 from private donations from Rattlesnake Valley residents. “Rattlesnake Ripple” is composed of 230 tiles representing the seasonal water currents, cycles and flows of nearby Rattlesnake Creek. Located on the northeast wall of the storage building in the park, the mural reminds Missoula residents of the history and natural beauty that surrounds them.

#### **Alison Reintjes: Artist’s Statement**

“Rattlesnake Ripple” is a 14.5 foot-by-6 foot ceramic mural comprised of 230 individual tiles. The mural references the seasonal water currents, cycles and flows in nearby Rattlesnake Creek. Rattlesnake Creek and the nearby area is important to local tribes, was the site of Missoula’s earliest settlement, has a strong history of mining and logging and has been reinvented as an important recreation area and natural setting for the city of Missoula. This is the watershed for the largest designated wilderness directly adjacent to an urban setting. Missoula citizens and Rattlesnake Valley

residents identify with the waterways of this place. This mural will remind them of the local history and natural beauty that surrounds them. The theme of the mural is open enough to invite reflection and encourage individual experience.

Each tile is the equivalent of an 8-by-8-inch square. On the mural, the alternating bands composed of solid blues, greens and stormy greys will be finished and glazed by me. The white areas seen on my scale rendering depict the froth and foam of rushing water, the current in motion. These white tiles will be individually hand-painted. Alternating bands of color and white emphasize the rippling effect of the mural's title and provide an important visual counterpoint to one another.

### **Alison Reintjes: About the Artist**

Alison Reintjes is a professional ceramicist and sculptor, who graduated from Northern Michigan University in 2000. She has studied at Pilchuck Glass Studio (Seattle, Washington), Kent State University (Kent, Ohio) and Canberra School of Art (Australian National University, Canberra, Australia). She moved to Montana in 2001 for a residency at the Archie Bray Foundation in Helena. Reintjes' most recent public work is "DoubleColumn," which hangs in the Russell Smith Courthouse on East Broadway in Missoula.

Reintjes has participated in a number of solo, two-person and group exhibitions throughout Montana and the Northwest. Further, she has lectured, conducted workshops and been featured in a number of local, regional and national publications.

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