

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 6th, 2021**

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**Hominy Rising Art Event celebrating 10th anniversary  
of the Hominy Creek Greenway**

**WEST ASHEVILLE, NC** - The [Friends of Hominy Creek Greenway, Inc.](http://fohcg.org) (FOHCG) invites the public to "Hominy Rising - Art & Awareness on the Greenway." This multi-tiered event will include 18+ visual and performance artists celebrating 10 years of the Hominy Creek Greenway. Installations will be on exhibit the week of Oct. 2 -10 on the Hominy Creek Greenway, 80 Shelburne Road, West Asheville. Opening Party and Performances will take place on Oct. 2, 4 to 7 pm (rain date Oct. 9). Also included in the week of festivities is a Family Day on Oct. 3 at 1 pm and an Art Bark Walk on Oct. 9 at 10 am. This event is free but donations are appreciated (or become a member!) More info at FOHCG.org.

**What: Hominy Rising, Public Art Exhibition celebrating 10 years of the Hominy Creek Greenway**

**Where: 80 Shelburne Rd., Hominy Creek Greenway, West Asheville**

**Opening Event, 10/2 4-7pm. Rain date 10/9, 4-7pm.**

**Exhibition Dates: October 2 - October 10, 2021**

**Website: <http://fohcg.org/join-us/arts-awareness/>**

The Friends of Hominy Creek Greenway will host 18+ visual and performance artists to celebrate the Hominy Creek Greenway's 10th anniversary. The exhibition of temporary, outdoor art installations will be displayed from Saturday October 2 to Sunday October 10, 2021. The exhibition will celebrate the Hominy Creek Greenway's 10th anniversary and reflect on the history, ecology and beauty of the greenway.

This is a juried exhibit, artists chosen include Caro & Chri, Max Cooper, Claire Dima, Growing Wild Forest School, Harmony Village, Kimberly Hodges (poster artist), Jenna Jaffe, Britt McDermott, Jennifer Murphy, Tiffany Narron, Pagans & Androids, Reddenhollow, Jason Rojas, Lisa Smith & Students, Peter Speer, Lex Turnbull, Justin Wells, and Zelda & Vivi et al.

Community sponsors are welcome! We have already seen a great response, with organizations including: *Friends of Hominy Creek Greenway, Mosaic Realty, New Belgium Brewing, Mountain Pet Rescue, Goldfish Marmalade, Cellarest Beer Project, and Growing Wild School.* (Contact Bryan Tomes at [bryantomes@yahoo.com](mailto:bryantomes@yahoo.com) if you are interested in sponsoring.)

The community Art Bark Walk is being hosted by Mountain Pet Rescue Asheville on Saturday, October 9th at 10:00 am to strut your leashed pup down the Hominy Creek Greenway to check out the Hominy Rising art installations. Doggie costumes are encouraged, but not required and if you don't have your own four legged friend, no problem. Mountain Pet Rescue AVL will have adoptable pups looking for their new forever family!

The theme of Hominy Rising is to highlight all aspects of the Hominy Creek Greenway experience including the history of the river and watershed, the ecology, the human impact, local biographies, folktales and legends, the story of the greenway, threats from development, the flora and fauna, its beauty, and in general, the spirit of the greenway.

To find out more information for the project, visit <http://fohcg.org/join-us/arts-awareness/>. Contact FOHCG board president Bryan Tomes with questions.

### **About the Hominy Creek Greenway**

After moving to Asheville from Atlanta in 2006 Doug “Brotherhug” Barlow led the effort to convince public officials to protect a secluded fourteen acre greenspace along Hominy Creek known as the “Waller Tract”.

The price tag of the Waller Tract, however, was far too high for him to handle alone. So Barlow set out to convince public officials of the value of the narrow wedge of land along Hominy Creek. His case for more green space is a familiar one: Urban parkland can improve ecological health, provide a place to play and gather, and help residents connect with nature, making the city more livable.

“It’s a magical place,” said Barlow. “The first time I saw the land I immediately felt that it needed to be public space.”



*Brotherhug Barlow*

Thanks to his efforts, in 2011 a coalition of public and private interests bought the Waller Tract on behalf of the City of Asheville for \$139,000 in order to establish the Hominy Creek Greenway. The tract includes a portion of the [world’s first hydroelectric powered trolley](#) developed by lumber baron Edwin Carrier in 1892.



*Hominy Creek Dam, 1915*

From the get-go, Barlow envisioned a community park planned by the community. For him, spearheading neighborhood movements is nothing new: In the 1980s, Barlow helped transform two acres of derelict urban Atlanta into a beloved community [park and land trust](#).

This time, he helped launch the Friends of Hominy Creek Greenway, Inc. (FOHCG) in 2011, a group of volunteers dedicated to creating and managing the parkland that borders a mile-long section of Hominy Creek in West Asheville. The FOHCG is partnering with local government, Asheville GreenWorks and other organizations to improve and manage the property.

In addition to being a corridor for commuters, the Hominy Creek Greenway is an unusual piece of forest in the city, Barlow said. He hopes educators and artists will find inspiration from the Greenway's history, beauty, and ecology.

For more information about the project or the Hominy Creek Greenway contact FOHCG president Bryan Tomes.

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**The FOHCG is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the Hominy Creek Greenway's wild nature and history, and connecting West Asheville to the French Broad River and downtown Asheville.**

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