



# TOWN OF CONCORD

Department of Planning & Land Management  
141 Keyes Road ~ Concord, MA ~ 01742

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 19, 2017

Marcia Rasmussen, Director  
mrasmussen@concordma.gov  
978-318-3290

## WEST CONCORD MURAL PROJECT MAY 27<sup>TH</sup> COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PAINTING EVENT

**CONCORD, MA** — As part of West Concord’s first public art initiative, in connection with its new Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) arts district status, two Village artists will be painting a mural on Saturday, May 27, and the community is welcome to join in.

The mural will go up on the wall at Twin Seafood that faces Concord Teacakes on Commonwealth Avenue in West Concord. The effort is part of a plan to develop the space between the two businesses into a public plaza, with cobblestones, plantings, tables and chairs. Construction of that project begins in late June or early July.

To facilitate the mural, the Town’s Planning Division, in collaboration with the West Concord Advisory Committee, applied for and received from the MCC a \$5,000 Cultural District Initiative Grant. Bradford Mill’s ArtScape artists Stephen Kivimaki and Laura Tilus-Korhonen were chosen to be the leads on the project. They started painting on May 15.

Kivimaki, who is a classically trained artist working and practicing in the style of 17th century French academic tradition, said this of the mural’s design: “We had two separate proposals that dealt with different aspects of West Concord history. We were trying to mix historical and modern references of West Concord.”

Tilus-Korhonen, who has a freeform independent style and takes her inspiration from details of nature, people and animals, said they designed the mural with the hope that people will, in the new plaza, sit and eat outside where they can look upon a calming and relaxing representation of the town in which they live.

There is no name yet for the mural. The artists are playing around with these: “Wheels of time,” “Crossroads of history,” “Wheels of connection” and “Wheels of community.”

Come to the space between Concord Teacakes and Twin Seafood on Saturday, May 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to help them paint. Wear clothes that you don’t care about getting dirty. All are welcome.

###