

Prince George County Art in Public Places  
**Project Description**

***“Bowie Light”***  
Dayton Claudio

My goal for this project is to create a focal point in the Library that contributes to a warm, inviting, contemplative environment. A place where people feel comfortable mingling to talk or just relax in a social place. I want the artwork to be intriguing, inviting new visitors to draw closer and study while imbuing a restful introspective ambiance for regulars. Something that changes subtly over time remaining new but not overpowering or distracting. An additional function this work will provide is interaction with Library users. For this project I am presenting two options.

Option 1) LED Glass Leaves with imbedded flat screen

This option will have a passage of glass leaves running down the left side. These leaves will be kiln formed in sculptural glass. They will be illuminated from behind with LED lights that cycle through a color sequence. An additional role this work will play is that of interaction. The flat screen will be accessible by library users for group meetings or presentations. When not in use for this purpose, it will provide a continuous show of choice. Examples might be; school art shows, current events, calendar, special functions, etc. I would also provide a series of paintings related to Bowie that would cycle through in default mode.

Option 2) Glass Mural, illuminated painting

The form that this artwork would take is a textured glass tile relief that is illuminated from behind with a grid of flat screens. The kiln formed glass tiles would be mounted on a framework in front of the screens. These screens would fit together in an array making one large image. I would provide a series of time sequenced paintings that would be scanned into the computer and project through the glass tiles. This would create an illuminated glass mural. The image would slowly transition revealing shifts in time of day, weather, seasons, etc. The computer could also be programmed to show special images during holidays or other important days. This glass mural would also be accessible by library users for special functions.

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## **Methods of Construction**

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All fabrication and construction is done in the studio of at the fabricator's shop. Fiberglass and glass castings are derived from clay moulds created for the project. Fiberglass is cast directly into the clay mould with a 2-part epoxy compound, glass fiber fabric and aggregate. Glass is formed from Cullet that is measured and placed into Hydrocal/Silica moulds that are taken from the original clay reliefs. These moulds with glass are then fired and annealed in the Kiln. The finished glass castings are then set in place as the fiberglass is cured in the clay reverse mould of the artwork. In the case of the glass mural the glass pieces are set in a metal framework with cushioned clips. The LED lights are attached to a back panel that is attached to the wall behind the glasswork. The Flat screens are attached to the wall behind the glass mural. Both the LEDs and the Flat panels can be accessed by removing glass tiles where needed. The fiberglass relief is painted in oil paint. The necessary equipment is rented for the installation that is done on site.

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### **Maintenance**

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There is no daily maintenance required other than dusting. The LED lighting system is rated at 20,000 hours. The flat screens are rated at 100,000 hours. The panels will be designed so that each one can be removed individually for access to the LED bars or flat screens. Graffiti can be removed with common solvents such as lacquer thinner or acetone.