

TRESTLE BRICKLAYING SPEECH 2012

This past year, “Our Year of Support,” Trestle Inc supported other not-for-profits, service organizations, projects and events in the greater Newburgh area, collectively as a Board and individually. And we will continue to do that through partnering, collaboration and attendance. Trestle Inc is actively involved with planning and participating in the first annual three-day “Illumination” event, which will take place in the City of Newburgh during the summer solstice, June 21-23. Thomas Edison tested the first light bulb in Newburgh; one of his light poles still exists at the bottom of Broadway in the Downing Vaux Half Moon Garden. Newburgh is a City of Firsts; many inventions began in Newburgh. It is time to illuminate Newburgh’s great history and accomplishments, and we will begin to do that in 2013 through an art-filled, musically-enriched, historically integrated three-day celebration!

“Illumination” ties so beautifully with Trestle Inc’s own mission statement: “to support local Arts, artists, and Culture, to increase tourism and stimulate economic development in the greater Newburgh area.”

Trestle Inc will “illuminate” our accomplishments in 2013 as we reflect, revisit and reminisce, review and restore all that we have done in TEN YEARS. 2013 is Trestle Inc’s 10th Anniversary! We will reflect upon what we have learned and what we need to do to build upon our new knowledge and experience, how we can grow and develop new projects as we restore those we have accomplished thus far.

The “Archways” mural, created by Garin Baker, is the largest piece of public art along the Hudson River and on the Eastern seacoast. It attracts people from around the world to come and see it, as they recreate the image by becoming part of it as they stand in front and have a photo taken. We would like to collect these photos, and download them to our website. We have been dedicated to maintaining the first three arches, having them restored by local artists; we have scraped archway four and will be scraping archway five in order to restore those trestle walls. Rescue Public Murals, Washington DC, is presently working with us, as our mural’s reputation is highly respected and recognized, in the hopes of restoring it for future generations. Apple has also been contacted as we are looking into 21st century technologies that will illuminate our “Archways” mural.

We have been told by mural artists and their representatives, that our “Archway” mural has inspired the countless murals that are being painted by different artists all over our City, changing the face of graffiti to uplifting artistic compositions, illuminating Newburgh!

We will revisit The Young Palettes art panel banners on Colden Street. The product we used for the art panel banners is so durable that after three harsh winters, they still look brand new, and will outlast any other product. But, we have learned that the wind is so fierce and strong from the Hudson River up the hill to Colden Street, that the mounting brackets weren’t strong enough to hold them on the poles. So we have been in discussion and had many conversations with experts involved with mounting public art, and have come up with a new stronger mounting bracket, which should sustain the high winds and natural elements. We are currently in the process of restoring them, thanks to Ed Burgess,

Leif Signs, Dreyers Welding Service, Newburgh area businesses. And in our 10th Anniversary Year we will be re-installing them on Colden Street, thanks to George Garrison and the DPW, who are instrumental in this accomplishment. Those banners will be stronger than ever, proudly illuminating our City with our youths' artistic expressions as they overlook the Hudson River.

As we restore those, we will be adding more art panel banners to Colden Street, from the 300 pieces of art we received. For our anniversary year, we are in the process of collaborating with the local colleges to get interns to assist us in the development of our website. One of their first projects will be to upload the Young Palettes work with reflections and descriptions of their art.

And our Trestle Brick Walkway, which illuminates Newburgh's loved ones and history, which silently speaks Newburgh's story. We will be memorializing the lives of those whose names are etched in the bricks through the stories we capture from relatives and friends willing to share. The stories from the bricks will be downloaded into our website to share with the world! We are hoping to receive photos and artifacts as well. And when people go to the virtual Brick Walkway on our website, people can click on a brick and bring up the story and visuals; eventually, we will add sound bites and video clips of your loved ones. Thus, we need the young people, interns from local colleges, who are currently advancing in this field to assist us, and in turn we will give them experience for their portfolios and resumes.

In addition, we are going to have new merchandise. These will include 10th anniversary memorabilia, as well as products with images from our other arches. There will be surprises throughout 2013 as we illuminate our accomplishments, revisiting and restoring our contributions to the Arts, to History and to City of Newburgh. Thank you for your continued support in all of our endeavors.