

Tree of Knowledge placed at Atchison Library

(KAIR)--A canopy tent, and a throng of workers, has been noticeable to passersby of the Atchison Public Library in recent days, with a public art installation being placed on the steps of the 5th Street entrance.

Deborah Geiger, Executive Director of the Atchison Art Association, talked with MSC News late last year, explaining the plans for the “Tree of Knowledge,” which is now becoming a reality. “The “Tree of Knowledge” is a Mosaic piece,” Geiger told MSC News. “The artist for that is Lorna Garrison, who is a local artist. [She was] born and raised in Atchison, and then moved away, and then came back and reconnected with us. We told her about this idea of language. That was the next piece that we thought was really important in our community. What we read, how we talk to one another, these are all super important, and all these things really come together at the library.”

Geiger told MSC News in an email Wednesday, May 23 that about a week of sealing and weatherproofing remains before the project is completed.

She said a dedication is scheduled for June 29, with details of the ceremony to be finalized soon.

The “Tree of Knowledge” is one of two public art installations planned in Atchison this year, with the second known as “Root to Rise.” “[It’s] a three-dimensional sculpture, and it uses loft and movement from a grounded position as its principle visual component,” Geiger told MSC News in December. “It’s location will be at 10th and Main. It’s that green space with Westar, so we have partnered up with Westar and they’re super excited about putting that piece in there. The premise underlying it is that people are the heartbeat of our community, and really the most critical and vital element to our culture.”

“Root To Rise” is expected to be installed sometime in August or September.

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