

“Spikes” by Merrily Dicks

Sculpture on the Cross Kirkland Corridor

“Spikes” by Merrily Dicks is the first permanent art piece on the Cross Kirkland Corridor. It is a sculpture made up of over 300 railroad spikes collected from the Cross Kirkland Corridor by Merrily Dicks and multiple Kirkland residents. The Cross Kirkland Corridor used to be a railway line through Kirkland. Merrily cherishes memories of waving to trains passing by her grandmother’s home in the Houghton neighborhood, hoping to honor Kirkland’s history through this piece.

Merrily Dicks is a painter, but was inspired by these historic railroad spikes to try something new by creating a sculpture for the community to enjoy. To gain the necessary skills, Dicks enrolled in the welding program at Lake Washington Institute of Technology in Kirkland. With the help of a fellow welding student, Riley Shroeder, Dicks completed “Spikes” and the piece was dedicated in May of 2017.



[The Kirkland Cultural Arts Commission](#)

approved the preliminary concept for this piece in July of 2016. The Cultural Arts Commission also supported the project by contributing \$1000 of 4Culture grant funds toward the installation of the piece.



*Merrily Dicks and Riley Shroeder at the “Spikes” dedication
Photo by Currently Kirkland*



The Kirkland Cultural Arts Commission is a volunteer board that works to help arts, culture and heritage grow and thrive in the City of Kirkland. Along with supporting art and cultural initiatives throughout the year the Kirkland Cultural Arts Commission advises the City Council on art acquisition and promotes strategic arts planning in Kirkland.