

Covered with Art

Ivan Toth Depena's *Surface* wins big



Ivan Toth Depena's *Surface* is an artistic wonder at the CATS Park and Ride facility in Cornelius.

If you're a commuter who uses one of the 354 parking spaces at the CATS Park and Ride facility at Sefton Park Road and One Norman Place in Cornelius, you've experienced the public art of Ivan Toth Depena. While his awning of colorful glass titled *Surface* provides shelter for bus riders, it was also recently awarded the 2018 Year in Review Award by Americans for the Arts Public Art Network (PAN). This organization's Year in Review recognizes outstanding public art projects from across the country each year.

Surface is inspired by Lake Norman, as Depena used underwater topographic data

from the 112-foot-deep basin to exude the feeling of looking up through the surface of the lake. Depena, an artist currently residing in Charlotte, incorporated the lake's blues and greens, as well as shades of orange, hearkening to the area's clay, into the design of the 1,766-square-foot canopy.

Depena, who has a Master's Degree in Architecture from Harvard University's Graduate School of Design, has also completed public art projects for Miami-Dade Art in Public Places, Denver RTD and the University of New Mexico. — *Compiled by Lori K. Tate, photography by JoAnn Sieburg-Baker*

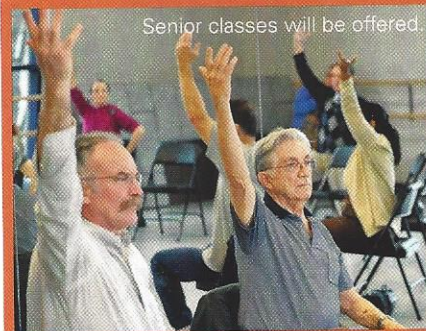
Step by Step

CORNELIUS ARTS CENTER HAS A NEW DANCE PARTNER



Gretchen Jax

As the Cornelius Arts Center's new building becomes more of a reality, the nonprofit has partnered with Charlotte Ballet to bring more artistic opportunities to the Lake Norman area. Known for its strong dancers and versatile repertoire, ranging from classical ballet to bold, contemporary works, Charlotte Ballet was founded in 1970. This is the company's first presence in the North Mecklenburg community.



Senior classes will be offered.

Pre-K and senior dance classes will be part of the center's inaugural programming, as Gretchen Jax, a faculty member of Charlotte Ballet since 2003, will serve as the instructor. Jax has a Bachelor of Arts degree in dance from Winthrop University. The classes will take place in the existing Parks, Arts, Recreation & Culture (PARC)-run Cornelius Arts Center at Oak Street Mill. Registration opens September 1. Visit www.corneliusarts.org for more information. — *Compiled by Lori K. Tate*