

A UNIQUE CITY IS DEFINED BY
THE QUALITY OF ITS ART AND
THE RICHNESS OF ITS HISTORY:
EXPERIENCE BOISE.



STAGE SERIES 4, DETAIL, ANNA URA

BOISE CITY DEPARTMENT OF ARTS & HISTORY

FY15 Annual Report OCTOBER 1, 2014 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

create engage connect



Photo courtesy of Jay Saenz

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Boise City Department of Arts & History's (A&H) fiscal year 2015 was a time of transition and progress. The Sesquishop, a temporary community space created initially for BOISE 150, closed in late December 2014. Staff held a grand finale farewell party on

December 21, 2014 to celebrate its two-year run.

Public art projects remained at full throttle. Staff completed four major commission projects and processed the Driek and Michael Zirinsky donation of fifty significant artworks by local artists into the Boise Visual Chronicle and Portable Works Collection. Continual ongoing conservation efforts helped to maintain the health of the collection and remedy issues that inevitably arise from age and exposure to the elements and the public.

Staff also finalized an archives and collections program plan, a long-term effort for preserving our valuable assets and making them available for research.

The History division kept busy with educational workshops and presentations; oral history interviews; objects and manuscripts processing; research, writing, and editing; and public displays and interpretation at City Hall.

The A&H Grant program awarded twenty grants for a total distribution of \$76,500 to individuals and organizations. Recipients' projects ranged from educational programs, to theater production, to a three-day World Village community event.

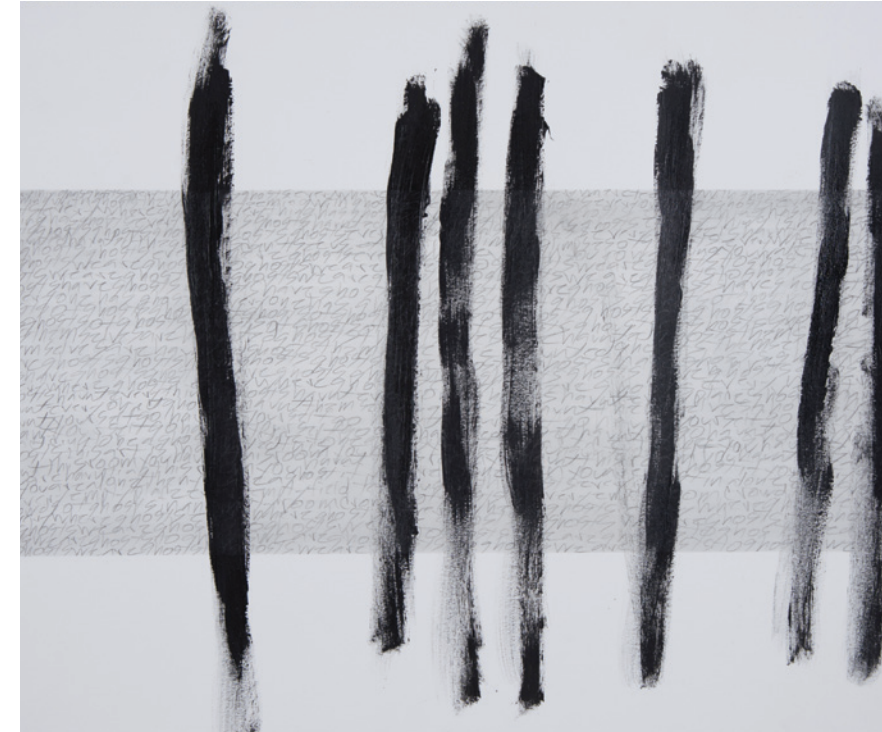
We also began a new major undertaking: the purchase of artist James Castle home site on Castle Drive. Immediate efforts focused upon basic clean-up of the site with concurrent planning for stabilization, construction, and programming.

The end of the fiscal year included a celebration of local artists and historians with the Mayor's Awards for Excellence in Arts & History. Six individuals, an organization, and a business all received honors through this biennial program.

It was another whirlwind year, but one that presented opportunities for Boise citizens to create, engage, and connect with their community and in doing so make it ever stronger and culturally dynamic.



Untitled, Molly Hill
Boise Visual Chronicle



A Free Association About Ghosts, Troy Passey

MISSION

To enhance Boise by providing leadership, advocacy, education, services, and support for arts and history in order for people to create, engage and connect with the community.

VISION

Boise is the most livable city in the country because it ensures that people have access to art and history and the opportunity to experience Boise through a variety of cultural offerings.

QUICK FACTS

7

Full-time A&H employees

\$0.01

Amount from each dollar of the City of Boise budget that is dedicated to Department of Arts & History

1,895

Historic documents and objects saved

151

Oral histories recorded

216

Streets made vibrant

75

Artists hired in FY15

\$977,710

Awarded through Arts & History grants and cultural Economic Development Funds

355

Individuals and organizations received funding from the A&H Grant Fund since 1997

66

Local contractors/fabricators/vendors hired in FY15

112

Individuals and Organizations honored with a Mayor's Award since 1986

\$5,490,000

Overall value of City's art collection

AWARDS & HONORS

Harvard University recognized the City of Boise and its Department of Arts and History as a semifinalist for its 2015 Innovations in American Government Award, for the second time since 2013. The Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation applauded the commemoration of BOISE 150—the 150th anniversary of the city—for how it brought the community together through programming rich with meaning, authenticity, relevance, and diversity. This engagement reinforced the importance of history, art and culture within this great community.

COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Videos Profiles / Blog: *Creators, Makers, & Doers* - This series highlights the lives and work of Boise artists and creative individuals. For fiscal year 2015, those interviewed through the videos and blog focused on public artists, with plans to continue the series and profile others who A&H directly support through funding, projects, and programs.

E-newsletter, Social Media (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter posts)– Information and images are disseminated regularly to help inform the public about A&H projects, programs, and opportunities.

Web – Staff commenced with planning for a new A&H website that is anticipated to roll out in FY2016.



NEW PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

James Castle Home Site – The City of Boise purchased the home of internationally known artist James Castle in July 2015. When completed, the James Castle Home Site will preserve the Castle family home, outbuildings, and grounds where James Castle lived and worked. Programing will include permanent and temporary exhibitions, an Artist-in-Residence program, and other engagement and educational opportunities. The James Castle Home Site will be the only site open to the public that commemorates the life of an Idaho artist.



PUBLIC ART

Public Art contributes to Boise's unique sense of place and engages residents in the design of our built environment.

Public Art Projects

Eligible City of Boise capital projects have 1.4% of funds set aside to integrate public art into city-owned facilities. The Department of Arts & History public art staff manages artist selection, fabrication, installation, maintenance, and conservation of these projects. Boise City's public art collection consists of more than 450 works and is valued at \$5,490,000 and growing. Free tours, print media, website information, community lectures, and workshops all serve to educate the public about the collections. Staff members also manage public art projects for Capital City Development Corporation, private investors, and others who contribute funds to commission original public art in Boise.

Permanent public art: 111
Traffic box wraps: 107
Boise Visual Chronicle: 185

Digital Art collection: 19
Portable Works Collection: 44



I'm a 950 But I Want to Be 1000, Stephanie Wilde
Boise Visual Chronicle

GOALS

INTEGRATE

art into the daily life of citizens, thus engaging residents and visitors in the civic environment

ENGAGE

artists and citizens in the design of the built environment.

COMMISSION AND PURCHASE

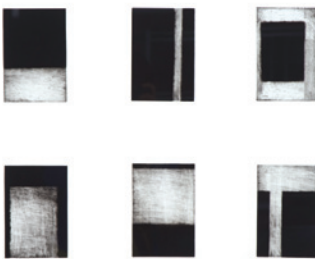
new permanent and temporary public artwork for public spaces and for the Boise Visual Chronicle.

EDUCATE

the public about Boise's public art collection through tours, print and electronic media, and workshops and lectures.

CONSERVE AND MAINTAIN

artworks in the Boise City's collection



Etudes, Cassandra Schiffler
Boise Visual Chronicle

Public art program staff managed a wide range of projects throughout Fiscal Year 2015:

Completed Art Works

- Skybridge*, by Seth Palmiter, located at Boise Airport, \$55,000
- Little Free Library: *Free Brain Candy*, by Ruth Fritz and Ken McCall, located at Roosevelt Street Market, \$3,000
- Rivers & Roads: Out for a Walk* and *Rivers & Roads: Scenic Overlook*, Sue Latta, located at Boise City Hall, \$10,000
- Four Stories*, by Byron Folwell, located at Boise City Hall, \$24,000

Gifts Received

- Wildland Firefighter*, by Lawrence Nowlan, Donated by the Wildland Firefighter Foundation, located at Boise Airport \$90,000
- Fifty works by forty Idaho artists* for the Boise Visual Chronicle and Portable Works Collection, Donated by Driek and Michael Zirinsky, \$45,580
- Vessel*, by Kerry Moosman donated by several donors, \$7,000

Public Artworks De-accessioned (due to deterioration and sustainability issues)

- Phillipi Park sidewalk art* by Elizabeth Wolf
- McDevit Skate Park Mural* by Grant Olsen

Awards Received

Idaho Smartgrowth Award for Community Excellence for the 30th Street Cultural Plan by Stephanie Inman

Education

Staff held the third annual Public Art Academy, an eight-week class series for Boise artists to learn about how to compete in the public art arena. Twenty artists participated in the program and three artist teams, representing four individuals, were selected to create a \$3,000 commissioned, class-related Temporary Public Art project.



Sky Bridge, Seth Palmiter



Brain Candy, Ruth Fritz & Ken McCall



Four Stories, Byron Folwell



Wildland Firefighter, Lawrence Nowlan

CULTURAL ASSET MANAGEMENT

Projects

Public art works require ongoing maintenance and conservation for all 500+ cultural assets in our inventory. These services include fall and winter preparations, such as repairs with temperature sensitive applications. Responsibilities also include contract management and monitoring for all new and existing works, communication and coordination with other departments within the City of Boise, such as Parks & Recreation, Purchasing, IT, and Risk & Safety.

In addition to oversight and maintenance of the entire collection, the following works required major undertakings in Fiscal Year 2015 related to significant preventative, corrective, and emergency maintenance:

River Sculpture – Renovation

Boise Chinatown Historic Site – Restore and reinstall

Virgo Downtown – Preparations for removal

Boise Totems – Clean, patina, and wax

Spring Run – Patina restored and waxed

Grove Street Illuminated – Brick work and electric repairs

Mayors Wall – Material review and care assessment

Traffic boxes – Cleaned, graffiti removal and repair/all 100 inspected

Beastiae Infenum and sign – Extensive damage due to reckless truck driver

Aero Agoseris/Dandelion – Powder coating and lengthening, reinstall

Bike Trio – Engineering repaired/tightened and aligned/cleaned, lubed

Watershed Exhibits and Public Art – Pipe Tree extensive repair and safety repair; H2O Wind Translator electric work, dust and grease



Public Art in City Parks

The following list summarizes maintenance completed on works in the City Parks.

Ivywild Park: Historic Streetcar cleaned, waxed, and painted; replaced water-jet letters

Morris Hill Park: Sprout bronze sculpture patina work completed

Julia Davis Park: Julia Davis Memorial

Downtown park space: Jesus Urquidez bronze drainage solutions; wax and patina; stone work

Fort Boise Community Center: *Keepsies* sculpture bronze patina resurfacing; clean and wax

Warms Springs Golf Course: Made extensive repairs to *Gone Native* mosaic

Zoo Boise: Mosaic animal sculptures removed for construction project. Relocation pending.

Riverside Park: Trade Center Memorial patina wax test and bronze cleaning

CULTURAL PROGRAMS

Cultural programing cultivates and promotes the creativity and depth of our city through supporting and collaborating with organizations and individuals to develop culturally related ventures of high quality. These endeavors are powerful tools that bridge cultural gaps, create civic dialogue, and help make Boise the most livable city in the country.

In FY2015, Cultural Programs focused upon grant program management, archival and collections planning, and special events.



Mayor’s Awards for Excellence in Arts & History

Presented every two years, the awards celebrate people, organizations, and businesses that have contributed to Boise’s artistic and cultural community. Award recipients must have demonstrated distinguished service, creative accomplishment, and a record of publication, presentation or research that enhances the artistic, historic, and broader cultural life of Boise. The awards began in 1986; to date, more than 100 people and organizations have been recognized since its inception. Award recipients were honored at a cocktail-style reception and awards presentation on Thursday, September 10, 2015 from 5:30–7:30 pm at the Boise Depot. The Department of Arts & History hosted the event, and Mayor Bieter presented the awards.

2015 AWARD RECIPIENTS:

- Excellence in Arts** – *Individual:* Carl Rowe
- Excellence in Art Education** – *Individual:* Marguerite Lawrence
- Excellence in the Arts** – *Emerging Organization:* MING Studios
- Excellence in the Field of History** – *Individual:* Errol Jones
- Support of the Arts:** Driek and Michael Zirnisky
- Business Support of Culture:** Modern Hotel & Bar
- Lifetime Achievement:** John Colias

GOALS

CREATE

opportunities to engage citizens in the cultural life of the city.

DEVELOP

awareness of and appreciation for Boise’s rich cultural resources.

PARTNER

with local organizations and individuals to cultivate and expand cultural programs and opportunities.

CONNECT

Boiseans with their community and with each other.

INFORM

the community about the diverse array of cultural offerings.

Boise Celebrates Good Neighbors

Staff worked to transition management and oversight of this program from the A&H to the Mayor’s Office. The cultural programs manager worked closely with Mayor’s Office staff to coordinate the Good Neighbor event and provide support for the overall program.

INTERSECTION: Archives as Artistic Inspiration

Staff coordinated a public presentation with a trio from Portland, Oregon (archivist Diana Banning, artists Kaia Sand and Garrick Imatani) to discuss the artist-in-residence collaboration between the City of Portland Archives & Records Center and the Regional Arts & Culture Council. The presentation was held at City Hall Council Chambers on November 19, 2014 and addressed the inspiration and logistics related to archival materials and creative artistic outcomes. A group discussion was also held at Boise State University with professors and staff.

Archives and Collection Care Planning

The cultural programs manager worked on the A&H Department plans for developing a City Archives and Collections program. This involved working with other departments to gain information about current systems as well as conducting inquiries regarding collections held within departments that fall outside of the City’s Records Management Retention Schedule. In addition staff worked with a contractor on drafts of a comprehensive collection plan, finalized and published the *Taking Care of Boise’s Art and Cultural Heritage Plan*, and completed a two-week intensive archives training.



Arts & History Grant Program

The Department of Arts & History awarded twenty different organizations and individuals grants for its Fiscal Year 2015 program. Amounts range between \$1,000 to \$5,000 for a total of \$76,500. Grants are reviewed by a panel and awarded based on quality, management, and community accessibility—supporting projects that ultimately contribute toward making Boise a lasting, innovative, and vibrant city through arts and history. FY15 Arts & History Grant Recipients:

- Angie Smith:** \$10,000, Large-scale portraits of Boise refugees displayed in Downtown Boise
- Ballet Idaho:** \$5,000, *"Learning Through Dance"* arts education program in Boise schools
- Big Tree Arts:** \$5,000, *Loud Writers'* Project targeting Boise youth and poetry slams
- Boise Gay Men’s Chorus:** \$ 5,000, Operational and production support for 2015–16 season
- Christian Winn:** \$5,000, Storyfort community literary festival
- Donald Winiecki:** \$5,000, Production, exhibition, and presentations of software-generated paintings
- Friends of IPTV:** \$7,500, Catalogue IPTV film footage to include Boise subjects for public accessibility
- Ghosts & Projectors:** \$5,000, Quarterly poetry reading series featuring local and touring poets
- Global Lounge:** \$10,000, World Village multicultural three-day event featuring artists, performers, crafts, and workshops
- Idaho Green Fest:** \$5,000, Performances and art components for Boise Earth Day community festival
- Idaho Horror Film Festival:** \$10,000, Professional development components and support for cultivating Boise’s film culture
- Idaho Office for Refugees:** \$3,000, World Refugee Day community event and art mural
- Idaho Shakespeare Festival:** \$10,000, Access Program, educational and experiential opportunities for underserved audiences
- Imperium Cinema:** \$10,000, Planning & production of short film bridging Boise’s film and theater communities
- Joe Golden:** \$7,500, Research, script development, and reading of original play, *"Ladies First"*
- LED:** \$5,000, *"This Side of Paradise"* collaborative performance and LAB educational programs
- Mike Winter:** \$3,000, *"Sights and Sounds of Cuba"* concert and dance performance
- MING Studios:** \$5,000, *"The Museum of Broken Relationships"* traveling exhibit
- Mladi Behar:** \$7,500, Bosnian and Herzegovinian cooking and cultural educational series
- Off Center Dance:** \$2,000, *"Folding and Unfolding"* performance related to Boise Art Museum origami exhibit
- Opera Idaho:** \$10,000, Tom Cipullo’s opera, *Glory Denied* based on Vietnam Veteran’s experience
- Preservation Idaho:** \$5,000, Education and resource guide on Boise mid-century modern residential architecture
- Rock on Wheels:** \$7,500, Mobile educational opportunities for underserved youth and senior citizens
- TAG Historical Research:** \$1,000, Brochure and presentations related to early Boise developer, Walter E. Pierce

HISTORY PROGRAMS

The history programs document, collect, and preserve vital historical information about the city from which interpretive programming, communication tools, publications, heritage tourism opportunities, festivals, and other initiatives emerge.

Workshops

Staff developed and offered the following free workshops: total of 132 attendees

Save Your Stuff: How to Physically & Digitally Preserve Family Heirlooms

Write Your Memoir

Genealogy 101: How to Get Started with a Digital Family Tree

Interview Your Family—Oral History Basics

Writing Your Family Stories

Fettuccine Forum

In FY2015, A&H continued this well-loved lecture and community engagement program with six events on First Thursdays between October 2014 – May 2015.

The forum moved to Boise City Hall, Council Chambers.

- October 2, 2014 - *Beer Heritage: Boise's Love Affair with Brewing* (panel of local experts)
- November 6, 2014 - *Dangerous Patterns: Conspiracy Theories and History* (David Walker and Tim Guill)
- February 5, 2015 - *Hate, Harassment, and Human Rights in Idaho* (Steve Shaw)
- March 5, 2015 - *Get in the Helicopter: Lead a Life of Adventure by Going With Your Gut and Taking Risks* (Buddy Levy)
- April 2, 2015 - *Why is it Called Atlanta? Migration to Idaho and the West after the Civil War* (John Bieter, PhD)
- May 7, 2015 - *Closing the Gap: Bringing Natural and Cultural Resource Preservation Together* (Sheri Freemuth and John Freemuth, PhD)



Oral History Program

Staff grew the Cultural Oral History collection by adding 28 interviews (nineteen from local cultural organizations and nine Vista Neighborhood residents). The collection now totals 151 interviews.

GOALS

PRESERVE

the place of history in Boise's community through local advocacy and partnership with other organizations

PROMOTE

Boise's historic and cultural landmarks by encouraging education, outreach, and cultural tourism

DOCUMENT

ways to incorporate history in future city projects, programs, and policies

COLLECT

the city's history by preserving oral, written, and visual documents and material culture

CELEBRATE

historic and cultural events to foster an appreciation for Boise's heritage

Objects and Manuscript Collections

In FY2015, staff processed 1,839 accession numbers as part of the archives and objects collection. The number of items in individual accession numbers varies; one accession number could have 1 item or hundreds. This includes 56 manuscripts in the collection that vary in size. The entire collection now totals 1,895 accessions.

Research Requests

Forty requests completed. Staff, interns, and volunteers fielded these requests that vary in their complexity and resource requirements.

Display Cabinet

Five displays were completed in FY2015. These were displayed on the third floor of City Hall where leadership staff and visitors could easily view them. Each exhibit requires detailed research, curation, interpretation, and fabrication. The intensive resources needed prove worthwhile as they provide visibility for the Department and education for those interested in Boise's history and culture.

- Boise Greenbelt (October 2014)
- Boise Winter Wonderland (December 2014)
- Boise Tourism (April 2015)
- The Basques in Boise (July 2015 – as part of Jaialdi held every five years)
- Boise's Water (September 2015)

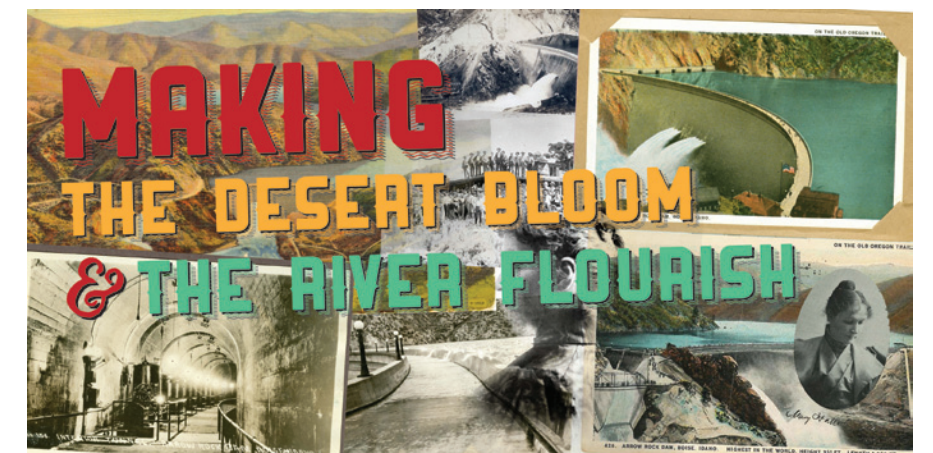
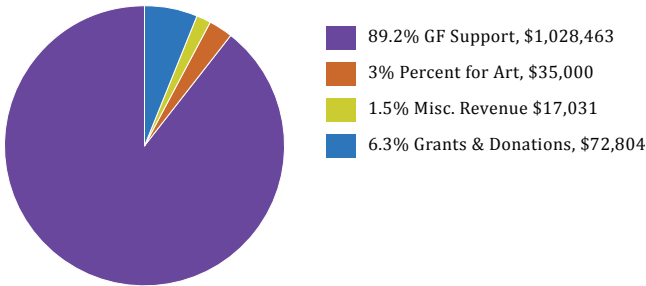




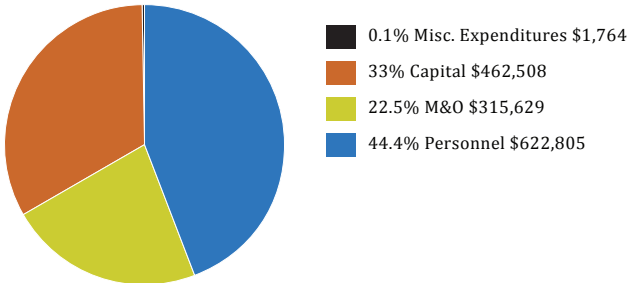
Photo by Melanie Flitton Folwell

FINANCIALS

FY15 Revenue



FY15 Expenses



PEOPLE

STAFF

Terri Schorzman, Director
 Karen Bubb, Public Art Program Manager
 Brandi Burns, History Program Manager
 Amy Fackler, Cultural Program Manager
 Karl LeClair, Program Assistant
 Annie Murphy, Collections Processing Assistant
 Kaci Nicks, Graduate History Fellow, Boise State University
 Joshua Olson, Cultural Assets Program Manager
 Rachel Reichert, Community Relations Manager
 Korena Wright, History temp

INTERNS

Mandy Moncu
 Kyle Giovannini
 Jazmin Cartner

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Mayor David H. Bieter
 Council Pro Tem Elaine Clegg
 Council President Maryanne Jordan
 Council Member Scott Ludwig
 Council Member Lauren McLean
 Council Member Ben Quintana
 Council Member TJ Thomson

COMMISSIONERS FY2015

Alecia Baker
 Eve Chandler
 David Hale
 Kay Hardy
 Jody Ochoa
 Dede Ryan
 Kate Simonds, youth commissioner
 Ben Quintana, Council liaison

HISTORY COMMITTEE

Alecia Baker
 Mark Baltes
 Amber Beierle
 Eve Chandler
 Matthew Halitsky
 John Hand
 Jennifer Holley
 Katy Magee
 Jody Ochoa
 April Raine
 Cathy Sewell

VISUAL ARTS

ADVISORY COMMITTEE
 Amanda Johnson Ashley, PhD
 Eve Chandler
 Steve Christiansen
 Jessica Flynn
 Holly Funk
 Danielle Hurd
 Gregory Knight
 Jane Lloyd
 Angela Machado
 Robyn Salathe
 Richard Young
 Dana Zuckerman



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