



Date of Council Meeting: June 28, 2016

**TOWN OF LEESBURG  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

**Subject:** Public art exhibit by Connie Mcknight

**Staff Contact:** Anne D. Geiger, Commission on Public Art Staff Liaison

**Council Action Requested:** Approval is needed to install a public art exhibit at Town Hall.

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends that Town Council approve the installation of a new public art exhibit at Town Hall by Connie Mcknight.

**Commission Recommendation:** The Commission on Public Art endorses the art exhibit by Connie Mcknight.

**Fiscal Impact:** None.

**Work Plan Impact:** None.

**Executive Summary:** A new public art exhibit at Town Hall needs to be approved by Town Council for the October 2016 display.

**Background:** On September 23, 2008, the Town Council adopted the Leesburg Public Art Guidelines which state that “The Leesburg Town Council has the final authority for Work of Art approval.”

The Commission on Public Art (COPA) has asked artist Connie Mcknight to exhibit from October 1 to October 31, 2016.

The criteria for selecting existing art to be displayed on public property are as follows:

- Quality and Originality: All work is original and created by Connie Mcknight.
- Suitability: The art is suitable for public display.
- Durability: All art will be displayed indoors.
- Safety and Public Liability: The art weights will be within the limits of the art gallery hardware and will not present a safety hazard.

**Attachments:** Representative sample of the art to be displayed

# Constance Ivana



*Constance Ivana*  
Soulful Innovations

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constanceivana.virb.com  
(703) 829-5499  
Facebook - Constance Ivana / IG @constanceivana

Painting Parties/ Team Building  
Commissioned Artwork  
Art Lessons/ Workshops

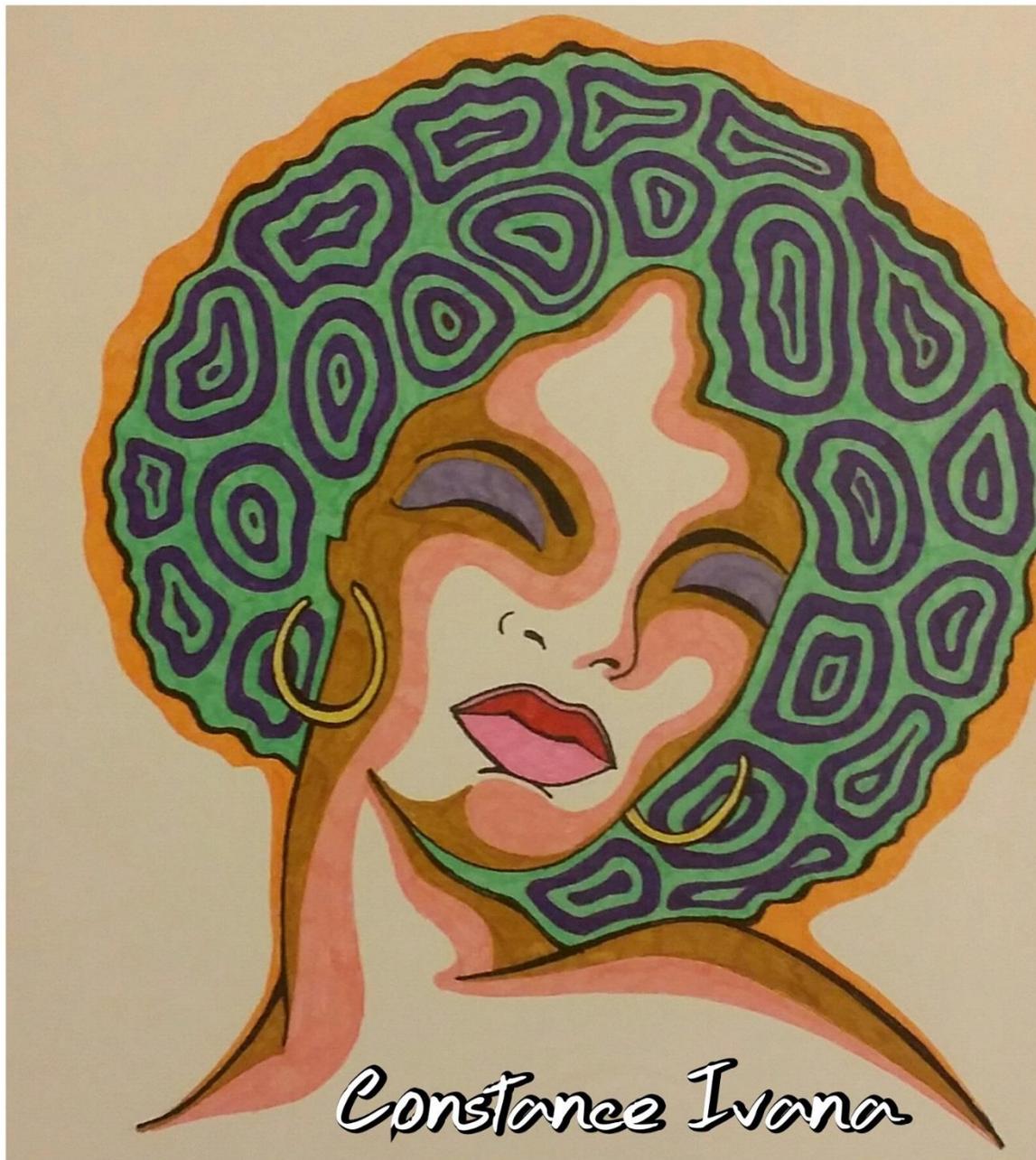
My name is Connie Mcknight. I am currently teaching English at Tuscarora High School in Leesburg, Virginia. Art is my passion. Art enables me to express myself creatively. I believe that we can start difficult conversations as we reflect on art that depicts these topics. Domestic violence has become more prevalent in our community and I plan to use my talent to bring awareness and healing to the people of Leesburg and surrounding communities.

I have included some samples of my artwork and poetry.



Be the ENERGY you want to attract

"I create art to make others smile and reflect" - Constance Ivana



*Constance Ivana*



Constance Ivana



*Constance Ivana*



*Constanza Ivana*

# But....I Love You!

He didn't feel loved by his family or friends

Over time his blackened mind warps, it twists and it bends

He needs that dark attention that his dad delivers well

"You're not good enough, try harder," his eye begins to swell

He learns that love must hurt to be real

His concrete heart ceases to feel

He walks through life distraught and blank

A drowning father he has to thank

One day he looks up and she's so bright

She feeds him hope a ray of light

They mesh and connect and love and grow

Only one type of love he knows how to show

He pull and pushes and slaps and hits

Alone and embarrassed in a corner she sits

Why does he do this it must be my fault

I can fix him, save him... is her unselfish thought The more she loves him the more she fades

A shell of herself, bruises in shades

She shuts her friends out this secret is kept

Oh how they'd help her if they knew how she wept She's had enough fighting and cheating and pain

Her once untainted heart now had a stain

She told him she loved him but they had to part

Rage and psychotic anger now they did start

He called her a slut and a whore and a bitch  
As he raised his hand to strike her his eye began to twitch  
He loved her with a closed hand the blows came like thunder  
She pleaded and pleaded and began to wonder  
Does love make you bleed  
Does love make you choose  
Does love make you need  
Does love mean you lose  
Her light flickered low and began to fade out  
Her silence was deafening as he continued to shout  
She thought to herself I'm not ready to go  
He loved her once more with one final blow



*Constance Ivana*

# I See You!

I see you I hear you why do you yell? Why do you push? What is that smell? I see you I hear you what did she do? Don't touch my mommy? Her eye's turning blue!!! I see you I hear you, so this is real love!? I'll find a girl to push around and shove!!! I saw you I heard you the damage you did! You took her from me! I crouched and I hid! I saw you and heard you my life's not the same I hate you I hate you, it's you that I blame I saw you and heard you my pain cuts so deep? Why did you put my mommy to sleep?



*Constance Ivana*

# Open Your Eyes

She stopped hanging out with the girls and no one knew why,  
We judged her and shunned her and caused her to cry.  
We never knew of the issues at home,  
We thought that she preferred to be alone.  
The signs were all there, but we couldn't see  
So wrapped up in ourselves, how selfish could we be.  
I lay awake at night, longing for one more hug, just one more text  
And then my mind wonders....who could be next.



Constance Ivana

# Take a Stand!

It travels our streets and lives right next door  
Color, money and schooling matter no more  
It takes over lives affecting you and me  
We all must stand up, why can't you see!  
We can be their voice  
We can intervene  
Scream, yell, waves your arms  
Make an unforgettable scene!  
Make it known that you will take a stand!  
Side by side...hand in hand  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MUST END!!!!!!!

PRESENTED June 28, 2016

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF A PUBLIC ART EXHIBIT AT TOWN HALL BY  
CONNIE MCKNIGHT

WHEREAS, the Leesburg Town Council supports the Commission on Public Art,  
established in 2006 (COPA Article XII Section 2-100 of the Leesburg Town Code); and

WHEREAS, the work of the Commission on Public Art encourages and supports art to  
enhance Leesburg's identity as a community and to demonstrate that Leesburg values art and  
creativity within the community; and

WHEREAS, the Commission on Public Art proposes that artwork by Connie Mcknight be  
a public art exhibit in Town Hall; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council must endorse all art displayed on public property.

THEREFORE, RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Leesburg in Virginia hereby  
endorses the artwork of Connie Mcknight for display at Town Hall from October 1, 2016 through  
October 31, 2016.

PASSED the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

\_\_\_\_\_  
David S. Butler, Mayor  
Town of Leesburg

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of Council