Mecklenburg County
Waymer Gym
Michele Turner

DATE
Artist Commissioned February 2017
Installation Anticipated September 2018

LOCATION
14200 Hollbrooks Rd.
Huntersville, NC 28078

DESCRIPTION
The Waymer Gym is part of the historic Torrence-Lytle School, established in 1937, the first high school for African-American students in northern Mecklenburg County. The school was the center of life in the community for more than 50 years. In 1957, classrooms, a science lab, home economics and shop classes, and a gymnasium were added to the school. Mecklenburg County is renovating and restoring the gym to become a community center with services for youth and seniors.

Local artist, Michele Turner is creating laser cut, powder coated designs for the railing at the entrance to the gym, which will complement the blue building façade, and is designing a mural for the lobby interior. Incorporating significant community members, symbols and structures relevant to historic Pottstown, Turner’s interventions will create a tribute to the community and signify the impact of the school on generations. Turner is well-known for her intricately carved African gourds. Narratives evolve in these colorfully painted objects which are held in numerous museum collections. Turner has also completed public art projects for Charlotte Area Transit.

SELECTION PANEL
Park and Recreation requested ASC public art staff directly select Michele Turner as the sole source for the public art opportunity.

FUNDING PARTNER
This project is funded through Mecklenburg County’s 1% for the Arts Ordinance. The ASC administers the public art program for the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. Artist Selection and designs are approved by the appointed Public Art Commission.