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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**“Seed of Hope” Art Unveiling at Esperance Park in Edmonds March 12, 2022**  
*Local artist Tsovinar Muradyan will unveil her sculpture representing the message, “Hope grows where light is given”*

**WHAT:** The Snohomish County Arts Commission will unveil the “Seed of Hope” by local artist Tsovinar Muradyan. Attendees will observe morning sunlight beaming through a small portal carved in the stone that illuminates a tiny bronze “sprout”. The sunlight and sprout convey Muradyan’s message, “Hope grows where light is given.” The Arts Commission recommended the art acquisition for Esperance Park in Edmonds, paid from county 1% For the Arts Funds. Local artist Tsovinar Muradyan, Conservation and Natural Resources Director Tom Teigen, and Kari Johnson, Vice Chair of the Arts Commission will be speaking. This event is open to the public.

**WHERE:** Esperance Park  
7830 222<sup>nd</sup> St SW  
Edmonds, WA 98026

**WHEN:** Saturday, March 12, 2022 - 10:30 am

**WHY:** The name Esperance means “Hope” in French. “And There Was Light!” is the inspiration for this sculpture. “Seed of Hope” is a sculptural story told within a mighty rock with a history spanning several millennia. The rock’s outer surface is colorful and rich from its origins from the earth’s land, the sun and water. Tsovinar has precisely calculated and carved an organic cavity at the top of this massive stone, in order to capture the sun’s light within. She placed the stone so that it generates a large shadow section on one side. When the sun’s light penetrates the carved organic cavity, it “meets” the glazed bronze seed, the marriage of which beautifully symbolizes the powerful connection of the Light to Life itself. “Hope grows where light is given.”

**Notes for Media:**

- Artist Tsovinar Muradyan, Conservation and Natural Resources Director Tom Teigen and Kari Johnson, Vice Chair of the Arts Commission will be available to the media after the event.

- See attached images for use of the sculpture and artist at work.
- See included fact sheet for more details about the piece and the artist.

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### **“Seed of Hope” Sculpture and Artist Fact Sheet**

Esperance County Park – Hope Symbol Artwork “The Seed of Hope”

Location of Artwork (to be permanent): Esperance Park (center of Hope Star), 7830 222nd St SW, Edmonds WA 98026.

#### **The Seed of Hope**

Materials are bronze and metal/stone. Dimensions of the sculpture are approximately 47”x23”x20”. The main part of the sculpture is a wild stone. There is a natural hole in the top of the stone. A bronze sprout blooms out of the stone. At different times of the day, the sun will fall on the leaf as a vital force.

Sculpture fabrication at Marenakos Rock Center. Base holds 1.5 tons of sculpture. Valdes Sandstone, Bedrock Natural Stones quarry, located on Valdes Island, in B.C. Canada. Valdes Sandstone testing – good for compressive strength, hardness, and freeze/thaw and moisture absorption.

#### **Background**

The Esperance Park 9.6-acre property was formerly owned by the Edmonds School District. In the late 1980’s the land was to be surplus and sold for housing development. A community activist group, The Action Council for Esperance (ACE), successfully petitioned the County to acquire the site for a community park. Renovations and upgrades to the baseball field area were completed in 2009.

In 2016, the adjacent 3.4-acre parcel was purchased from the Edmonds School District. Renovation of Esperance Park was substantially completed in May 2020. With a final project cost of approximately \$1.3 million, this project provided: new accessible walking paths; 2 new off-leash dog areas; playground replacement and relocation; parking lot renovation; new multipurpose sports court; little league field enhancement; storm water treatment/habitat area; and a forest playground with zip line.

The Snohomish County Arts Commission cultivates and enhances a vibrant community of artists and arts organizations by connecting citizens with a range of cultural opportunities to celebrate, appreciate and participate in the diverse arts and culture of the County.