

## The History of the Project

The Reidsville City Council chose back in 2014 to bring public art into the Scales-Morehead intersection in downtown Reidsville. The Reidsville Area Foundation partnered with the City to fund the \$68,000 sculpture, providing \$30,000 towards its design, construction and installation.

*"We are excited to see the City of Reidsville incorporating public art into the downtown area. We value the input of residents into the selection and design process. Civic engagement is a hallmark of strong communities. We are pleased to partner with the City of Reidsville on the funding for this project. The sculpture reminds us that we are growing and moving forward, even as we pay tribute to the past.*

**Jen Nixon, Executive Director  
Reidsville Area Foundation**

Following a rigorous "Call for Arts" competition, artist/sculptor Jim Gallucci of Greensboro was selected by the Artist Selection Panel. After a community forum, Mr. Gallucci added the historical elements to the side panels of the 17-foot tall brushed stainless steel art work, reflecting the City's new growth rising up from its historical past. The work was installed in April of 2016.

*A Special Thanks to local citizens serving on the selection committee: Tilda Balsley, Barbara DeJournette, Pat Harden, Calvert Smith, Rochelle Tucker, Ginger Waynick, Bob Wickless, advisor David Finn, former City Manager Michael Pearce & David Bracken for their efforts in this process.*

## Reidsville's "Budding Future"



***A Collaborative Project Between the  
City of Reidsville & Reidsville Area Foundation***

## Historical Elements

*The historical elements on the side panels of the sculpture came from the artist, members of the Artist Selection Panel and Reidsville City Council members. Several of the elements depict “firsts” associated with Reidsville and Rockingham County.*

**Piedmont Railroad** –The railroad, completed in 1863, made Reidsville the principal station between Danville and Greensboro, and was key to future growth and industrialization of the town.

**Yarn Spindles** – Beginning with the cotton mill of the 1890s, the textile industry contributed to Reidsville’s prosperity, adding important economic diversification.

**Clarence “Tuck” Tucker** – Tucker was a prominent Reidsville businessman and first African-American Rockingham County Commissioner since Reconstruction.

**Horse & Sulky** – During the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, Reidsville had its own racetrack, an elliptical 1¼-mile trotting track.

**Lucky Strikes Logo** – Lucky Strikes, a brand so popular it is featured on the company smokestack, was one of many brands of the American Tobacco Company, a dominant economic force in 20<sup>th</sup> century Reidsville.

**“The Waynick”** – The Waynick motorcar, built in 1902, was the first and only car built in the area and one of the first automobiles manufactured in the State.

## Historical Elements

**Gears** – Representing Reidsville’s various industries.

**H.K. Griggs Sr.** – Griggs was the first African-American Principal of Reidsville Senior High School.

**Williamsburg School Sign** – This sign marks the location of the original Williamsburg School, the first public school in North Carolina.

**Susie Sharp** – This Reidsville native served not only as the first female Justice of the NC Supreme Court but also the first female Chief Justice of the NC Supreme Court.

**David Settle Reid** – Reid, the town’s first postmaster, later became a State Senator, US Congressman, the Governor of North Carolina, and US Senator. The house where he lived for the last ten years of his life is on the corner of Lawsonville and Southeast Market Streets.

**1873** – The City Seal shows the year of Reidsville’s incorporation.

Now, as in the past, a **wide variety of arts**, both visual and performing, contribute to the quality of life in the community.

*In the near future, plans are to establish a walking/driving tour around Reidsville that visitors and educators can use based on these historical elements.*