12/3/19

Les Paul Statue Proposal

Overview

Waukesha has leveraged its heritage as the home of guitar and audio innovator Les Paul a variety of ways. These include a highway in his name, guitar town signage and large guitar displays throughout the city. To further honor Les Paul's legacy, I would like to propose erecting a statue in his likeness.

Benefits

There are a variety of benefits to having a Les Paul statue in the city:

- Ties existing initiatives together and completes the tribute
- Serve as a focal point for residents and visitors
- Puts a face to the name people know but may not appreciate
- Introduces the icon to those who are unaware
- Could be leveraged for business, festival opportunities
- Enriches the city's heritage

Funding

An effort like this could be crowd funded or combined with other efforts, such as concerts, fundraisers, or appeals to individuals who want to play a part in solidifying Les Paul's legacy. Waukesha has a robust musical community that may also want to participate in bringing attention to this initiative. Estimated cost \$40-\$50K.

Similar Examples

South Milwaukee erected a statue of 'The Crusher' in 2019, unveiling it in a community event that garnered publicity locally and beyond. The firm that developed the statue is based in Milwaukee. Funds were raised through crowdfunding and other donations.

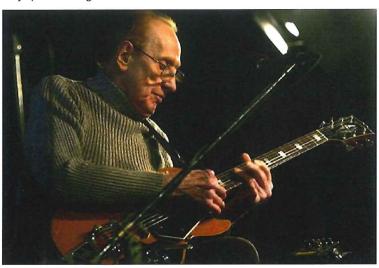
Commitment

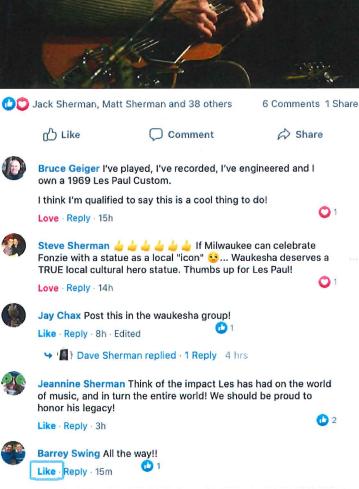
To help this initiative I would avail myself and connections in the local advertising, music and PR industries as needed. I want nothing more out of this than to see a home town legend have his statue erected for generations of music fans past, present and future to appreciate.



Hey all! I'm meeting with the Waukesha Public Art Committee soon to start a conversation about a possible Les Paul statue for the city. Would love to go in with a show of thumbs up from people who agree this would be a cool thing to do!

If you ever played an electric guitar, recorded or engineered music over the past seven decades, you can thank Les for his innovations that helped make it possible. And I'd like to thank this hometown musical hero by spearheading this initiative!





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Write a reply...