

# TampaPublicArt



**Artist:** Matt May (American, born 1979)  
**Year Completed:** 2008  
**Materials & Dimensions:** 19-digital photographic images on acrylic, various dimensions  
**Participating Agencies:** City of Tampa, Public Art Program, Department of Parks & Recreation, Department of Contract Administration, Fleischman Garcia Architects, Community of New Tampa  
**Location:** 17302 Commerce Park Boulevard, New Tampa



## **Project Description:**

This installation at New Tampa Community Center consists of 19 large-scale digital photographic transparencies printed on clear acrylic and mounted in windows throughout the community center. Artist Matt May photographed local youth gymnasts, dancers and skate boarders on location at public gyms and parks for the project.

## **Artist Concept:**

"I wanted to photograph young athletes practicing, performing and just enjoying their sport for this project," May said. "I think featuring local athletes give the photographs a great deal of authenticity. But I also hope that both the photo shoots and the photographic installation are empowering to the subjects and all the athletes who will be exposed

to the installation at New Tampa Recreation Center."

The artist used photographic strobe lighting to focus attention on athletic form, freezing action and emphasizing the qualities of strength, confidence and determination exhibited by the young athletes who took part in the project.

Matt May was born in Tampa in 1979. He is a graduate of

the University of Florida.

*The mission of the City of Tampa's public art program is to promote the involvement of artists in projects throughout the city that enhance the physical environment and celebrate Tampa's unique character and identity. The public art program falls under Art Programs, a division of the Department of Arts & Cultural Affairs.*

**City of Tampa Department of Arts and Cultural Affairs • Public Art Program**  
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