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**TOWER OF CODE**

V. Skip Willits, Camanche, IA  
South Park, west side, northeast corner

**THE SPRING FLOODS** by my studio on the river islands bring a display of branches and driftwood, each marked by nature's artistry. I infuse these river relics with my own art, marrying nature's work with human creativity. From childhood welding lessons with my father to creating public sculptures and commissions worldwide, my journey is as rich and varied as the Mississippi River where I work and live, with my art weaving through it all.

Willits began welding at age 10 under his father's tutelage, learning about metals and welding techniques. Since his first public sculpture was installed in 1983, he's been active in creating public art commissions across North America and Europe. Based by the Mississippi River, his work is a tangible reflection of his life and identity.



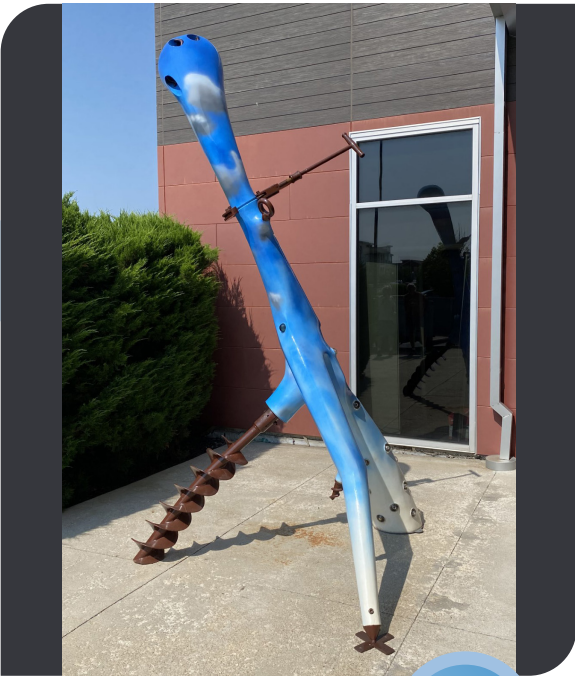
7

**THERE THERE**

Suzan Hampton, Lawrence, KS  
Prairie Park, 2730 Harper St

**LIKE THE 8,000-YEAR-OLD PRAIRIE** it sits within, *ThereThere* is an evolving gateway to nurture human connections with nature. A reusable structure holds native clay perennial seed pods. Over time, the seeds disperse with wind, rain and animal (including human) interactions to land in a bed of black biochar from burned invasive plants harvested at the site and inoculated with local mycorrhizae (fungi) that improve soil health. This symbiotic relationship reflects the beauty of humans helping plants, plants helping prairie, and prairie helping humans.

Suzan Hampton is an environmental designer and PhD student in architecture at KU whose work focuses on site-specific installations that foster a deeper understanding of place and of self by connecting people's visceral memories with sensory experiences in three-dimensional space.



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**MARKS ON A LANDSCAPE**

David Vertačnik, Lawrence, KS  
Theatre Lawrence

**MARKS ON A LANDSCAPE** is a large, freestanding form that suggests aspects of time, place, and gesture. The implied movements of the mark-making scribe along with the thrust of the auger convey a gestured stance. The form of the sculpture originated while the artist was pruning in his orchard when an inverted felled limb looked to be alive. He recreated the form as a linear armature in steel rebar. After the glass insulators and other selected found objects were installed, he covered the piece in fiberglass resin. The upper section of the sculpture appears to be in the process of being severed. The artist is addressing the practice of "out with the old in regenerating the new" as a commonly repeated cycle found in life.

David Vertačnik received his Master of Fine Arts degree from the New York State College of Ceramics At Alfred University in Alfred, N.Y., in 1975 and his Bachelor of Science degree from Indiana State University in 1972. David has taught at the University of Kansas since 1979.

**FREE Public Art App – Otocast**  
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Download the free Otocast APP to learn more about the Annual Lawrence Outdoor Downtown Sculpture Exhibition

Otocast narrated audio guides are used for exploring, navigating and discovering more about your surroundings, wherever you are in the world. Audio commentary for each artwork or point of interest is provided by people intimately familiar with the location, whether it is the artist who created a public art piece, an architect who designed the structure, or a local resident who knows the history of a particular place.

You may also view a digital version of this brochure on our website:  
[lawrenceks.org/ODSE](http://lawrenceks.org/ODSE)

**SCULPTURE LOCATIONS**

<b>8</b> THEATRE LAWRENCE ← 4660 Bauer Farm Dr.			CITY HALL N ↑	
	6TH ST.	MASS ST.	<b>1</b>	NEW HAMPSHIRE ST.
<b>2</b>	7TH ST.			
	LIBRARY		<b>3</b>	
	8TH ST.		<b>4</b>	
	<b>5</b>			
	9TH ST.	MASS ST.		LAWRENCE ARTS CENTER
	10TH ST.			
KENTUCKY ST.	VERMONT ST.	WATKINS MUSEUM		
	11TH ST.	N. PARK ST.	<b>7</b> →	PRAIRIE PARK 2730 Harper St.
			<b>6</b>	

Lawrence KANSAS  
OUTDOOR DOWNTOWN  
**SCULPTURE**  
EXHIBITION  
2024

**LAWRENCE CITY COMMISSION**

Bart Littlejohn, Mayor  
Mike Dever, Vice Mayor  
Amber Sellers, Lisa Larsen, Brad Finkeldei

**CITY MANAGER**

Craig Owens

**LAWRENCE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**

Daniel B. Smith, Chair  
Marlo Angell, Jill Stueve, Deena Amont, Rebekka Schlichting, Alicia Kelley, Marciana Vequist, Tim Metz, Brook Donovan and Beverly Victoriano

**CITY LIAISON**

Porter Arneill  
Assistant Parks & Recreation Director - Arts and Culture

**SPONSORED BY**

Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission  
and the City of Lawrence

Some sculptures may be available for sale.  
For information, contact Porter Arneill, 785-832-3449

The Outdoor Downtown Sculpture Exhibition was founded in 1987 by Jim Patti and the Kansas Sculptors Association.

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