The Lawrence Arts Commission welcomes you to the 17th Annual Downtown Lawrence Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition

The exhibition features eight original works from artists across the United States. These pieces were selected from a field of over 60 submissions by Rachael Blackburn, Director of the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art in Kansas City, Missouri.

The exhibition is organized to enhance the understanding and appreciation of sculpture. This brochure is presented to assist a viewer’s enjoyment of a self-guided tour of the exhibition.

The Lawrence Arts Commission appreciates the efforts of many individuals and organizations that assist with this annual exhibition and especially wants to recognize Jim Patti, the Lawrence Convention and Visitors Bureau and the City of Lawrence for their many contributions.
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“Selective Memory”  
Chris Wubbena  
Waterloo, Iowa  
Media: Acid etched steel

Chris is a professional sculptor presently teaching at the University of Northern Iowa, in Cedar Falls, Iowa.

“Selective Memory” exists as a temporary artifact and brief fragment of personal growth. Geology and stone stratification is employed as metaphoric vehicles for investigation into the layers of sediment and sentiment that make up a personal life story of history, memory, and meaning. Through the constructive process of metal fabrication and the subtractive process of acid etching, “Selective Memory“ unifies sculptural and pictorial languages into an autobiographical three-dimensional poem.

“Selective Memory“ has been exhibited in the San Francisco State University Gallery of Art in San Francisco, California, and the “Sculpture on Second Outdoor Exhibition” in Davenport, Iowa.
“Pollywiggle”
Bounnak Thammavong
Cedar Falls, Iowa
Media: Painted Steel

Polywiggle is a visually dynamic arrangement of conical forms adorned with colors and patterns derived from an Asian Tree Frog. My father would often reminisce about listening to tree frogs as a child. After a fruitful day of fishing, the sounds of chirping frogs would sustain a soft melody, while crack of the campfire kept the beat, that created a natural lullaby; lulling my father to sleep. Rather than creating a frog, I decided a multi-colored tadpole would create a more provocatively dynamic form. The tadpole allowed me to utilize the movement, and natural visual rhythm, created by the arrangement of the conical forms, the linear and gestural aspects of the spiraling tail, as well as the relationship between the tadpole and the off kilter column. The tadpole also allowed me to use the colors and patterns of the tree frog to enhance the inherent visual aspect of the conical forms.
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“Self-Portrait as a Midget”
Gary Mark
El Paso, Texas
Media: Polyester Resin

Gary Mark received a Bachelor of Arts in 1999 and a Master of Arts in 2002 from the University of Texas at El Paso. He has been a secondary public school art teacher for the past four years and instructor at the University of Texas at El Paso since 2003.

“Self-Portrait as a Midget” is a series of five identical small figures with my face. The figures are arranged in a circular pattern with the composition having a planned relationship and interaction from each figure to the sculpture’s entirety. Each figure has a pronounced body, which is covered in a red coat and blue pants. The figures are in a classic statue style implying their importance and royalty, importance in a small size with both hands hidden, head sheepishly cocked to one side, and feet pigeon-toed, signifying vulnerability.
"Spangled"
Matthew Wicker
Summer, Nebraska
Media: Cast iron, Steel

Matthew Wicker earned his BFA in drawing and sculpture from Bowling Green State University and his MFA in sculpture from Georgia State University. He currently teaches at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

"Spangled" is the first piece that I made after the 9-11 attacks. Having been in Suffolk, England at the time, I had a strange distance to the events even though the emotions were as palpable as flesh. It was strange coming home. Everyone, myself included, was swept up in a general feeling of patriotism on the verge of jingoism. I made this piece amongst those times.
"Conscious of Her Shores"
Jayson Lowery
Hamtramck, Michigan
Media: Marble, limestone, cast iron, and steel.

Jayson Lowery received his BFA from Northern Arizona University and his MFA from Wayne State University in Detroit.

This piece deals with tensions between two bodies resulting from the first party needing the assistance of a second party while also needing to maintain the focus of third parties on itself; and the need of the second party to shore up the first while remaining inconspicuous. This relationship is evident in physical objects such as rooftop billboards and their support structures. It can also be found in relationships between individual people in many work environments, and between communities of people.
“Organic Composition #1”  
James Darrell Kizer  
Lawrence, Kansas  
Media: Steel, aluminum, polyester resin, fiberglass

James Kizer has recently returned to Lawrence after a celebrated career in the graphic design field of nearly thirty years.

My work seeks to illuminate the interdependent nature of all living species. Living species, plant, animal and micro organism, which interactively sustain the bio-cultural miracle of Mother Earth.

As a fine artist, I believe I have a responsibility to act as a catalyst to stimulate crucial conversion regarding Earth’s ecosystems as they have become increasingly at risk.

Being that one of the essential components of life is Photosynthesis, it is right and fitting that I dedicate “Organic Composition #1” to the work and memory of Rachel Carson, the courageous human being and revolutionary spokesperson for the rights of life.
“Gradual Beginning”  
Stephanie Sailer  
Cedar Falls, Iowa  
Media: Painted Steel

Stephanie Sailer is currently working towards her Masters in sculpture at the University of Northern Iowa.

Sculpture is my primary interest and has provided me with fulfillment that other disciplines cannot. My professional career started as a painter, but I soon realized the indeniable attraction to the object and three-dimensional space. The ability to interact with a sculpture in real space is unlike any other medium.

“Gradual Beginning” is a geometric abstraction of a broken seed pod. Appearing to be nestled in the ground, it signified a reclaiming of the seed by the surrounding land. As it settles, “Gradual Beginning” creates its own landscape that facilitates a conversation with the original.
“Breech”
Willie Ray Parish
Anthony, New Mexico
Media: Painted steel

Sculptor Willie Ray Parish is Professor of Sculpture at the University of Texas at El Paso. His work is exhibited throughout America.

“Breech” is one of about fifty sculptures I have built exploring the abstract possibilities of surfacing sea mammals. The sculptures are all abstractions, but their sources are the shapes and forms that occur above the water line.

The Juror has designated this piece as “Best in Show.”
OUTDOOR • DOWNTOWN
SCULPTURE
EXHIBITION
LAWRENCE, KANSAS

Anyone interested in purchasing a piece represented in this year's exhibition may call the office of the City Manager, (785) 832-3400, or visit the City Manager's office, fourth floor, City Hall, 6 E. 6th St.

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