The Lawrence Arts Commission welcomes you to the 20th Annual Downtown Lawrence Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition

The power of art is tremendous. It can be a visual storyteller. It can articulate aspects of culture - in both substance and meaning. Art can enhance an environment and give visual identity to the community.

To this end, I and the rest of the City Commission wish to congratulate and thank the Lawrence Arts Commission and the Lawrence Parks and Recreation Department for their continued dedication to the outdoor sculpture exhibition. Downtown Lawrence’s streetscape is an ideal location to exhibit these artworks.

Art is powerful, and I hope you’ll take time to view the exhibit, creating your own original experience. Again, congratulations to the Lawrence Arts Commission for another excellent exhibit and Parks and Recreation for installing and maintaining it.

- Mayor Sue Hack, City of Lawrence

In the 20 years since its founding, the Lawrence Outdoor Downtown Sculpture Exhibition has become recognized as a vibrant venue for some of the most innovative sculptors in America. The eight artists featured in 2007 work in steel and bronze, wood, marble, fiberglass, resin, plastic and vinyl; their subjects include wind and air, flight, sanctuary and introspection. The Lawrence Arts Commission, with the cooperation of the Parks and Recreation Department, is pleased to present this exhibit, which again brings into the heart of our city artistic imagination expressed in superb craftsmanship. Enjoy!

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"Prairie Winds"
Jan Gaumnitz
Lawrence, Kansas
Medium : Painted steel

Jan Gaumnitz was born in New Ulm, Minnesota, living on a farm for almost seven years. It was during this time that she was encouraged by a relative to express herself through drawing and coloring. Her favorite subject matter has always involved nature in some form - human, animals and birds, landscape and so on. Gaumnitz feels fortunate to have an interest that brings her into contact with intelligent people who are always ready for new ideas, the latest materials, techniques, friendships and adventure-some experiences.

The idea for Prairie Winds came from the Kansas landscape with winds blowing the grasses, forming patterns as it moves across the hills. Central Industrial Sheet Metal Works, in Kansas City, provided the iron sheet metal with patterns cut out for commercial uses. I chose interesting shapes that seemed even more exciting when overlapped to create more dimensionality. The selected pieces were welded together and "rolled" through a large machine to suggest the movement of grasses. The light blue color was chosen to reflect the sky on a sunny day.

“View”  
Michael Warrick  
Little Rock, Arkansas  
Medium: Painted steel

Michael Warrick is a professor of sculpture at the University of Arkansas. His distinguished national exhibition record spans more than two decades with 39 solo exhibits and 150 competitive and invitational exhibits. He is the recipient of numerous regional and national grants and fellowships including a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship through the Ragdale Foundation in Lake Forest, Illinois, and individual artist grants from Art Matters, Inc. and the Pollack-Krazner Foundation.

View is a work that expresses the difficulties and prejudices of being physically or mentally disabled.

www.michaelwarrick.com
Dylan Mortimer graduated with a BFA from the Kansas City Art Institute in 2002, and with an MFA from the School of Visual Arts in 2006. He is an artist and a pastor at Rivercity Community Church in Kansas City. He has been included in exhibitions at the Longwood Arts Gallery, David Zwirner Gallery and Columbia University in New York City and at the Kansas City Jewish Museum, and he has done permanent and temporary public installations at several locations in the United States. Dylan’s work explores the sacred in the realm of the public. Prayer Booth questions the place of prayer within the public sphere. Balancing sarcasm with sincerity, the piece inspires reactions all over the board, and draws attention to difficult issues with public spaces. The intention is to spark dialogue and debate over an issue that is sensitive, but necessary.

www.dylanmortimer.com
"Evolution of Flight"
Ken Pierce
New Cuyama, California
Media: Fiberglass and resin

Inspired by the quest to fly, "Evolution of Flight" combines the aerodynamic forms of a plane's fuselage with the wings of a bird in flight. This sculpture is an example of how our visions and fantasies may, however seemingly impossible, become reality.

"Evolution of Flight" has the fuselage of a plane and wings like a bird. This sculpture is my attempt to envision man's early fantasy as it evolved into the reality of today's sophisticated aircraft that many of us take for granted.

Discovering a passion for sculpture as a student at the Rhode Island School of Design and working as an apprentice sculpting memorials back in Rhode Island, my style has evolved over the last thirty years working on multiple bodies of work. In recent years I've been doing large scale sculpture for public spaces. I still enjoy creating smaller pieces in my favorite medium, stone. However, I will often use different mediums to convey the effect that I am trying to create occasionally using a combination of mixed media.
"Sanctum"
Steve Elliott
Wayne, Nebraska
Medium: Steel

Steve Elliott received his BFA from the University of Kansas and his MFA from the University of Maryland. His work has been included in over 40 solo and group exhibitions at national and regional venues. Recent exhibitions include the Plattsburg State Art Museum in Plattsburg, New York, the Foundry Arts Centre in St. Charles, Missouri, and a recent collaboration with I-Space in Chicago, Illinois. He is an assistant professor of art and design at Wayne State College in Nebraska, where he teaches sculpture, drawing and design.

Sanctum was designed using three-dimensional printing technology, and consists of two interlocking welded steel pyramid forms, implying a place of strength, protection and sanctuary.
“Breathe”
Joshua Wiener
Boulder, Colorado
Media: Colorado Yule marble and steel

Joshua Wiener began sculpting at an early age and has become skilled in carving all types of stone at the Marble Institute, where after two years as an apprentice at the Marble/marble symposium he became full time staff. Through the symposium, Wiener was exposed to the international art community. This exposure has allowed him to study twice with master sculptor Kazutaka Uchida in Japan and to participate in a stone-sculpting symposium in Bangalore, India, in 2004. His public commissions may be seen in Colorado at Broomfield, Wheat Ridge and Castle Rock.

Breathe was created as a pillar of the ocean. It stands as the building block to all life on the planet. The marble was chosen because it was formed from coral and other calcite creatures, and the steel screen weaves the concept into its environment.
“The Hedgehog House”
Christopher Fennell
Birmingham, Alabama
Medium: Wood

“[Christopher Fennell] grew up in Florida doing construction work, then got an engineering degree from the University of South Florida and went to work for Motorola Inc. in robotics. A job with British Aerospace designing flight simulators in Tampa, Fla., followed, but Fennell said he got bored with using existing components to design things. He wanted to create from scratch. So he went back to school and earned a master of fine arts degree from the University of Georgia. One of his professors wanted him to tear down an old barn, which inspired Fennell to build his first colossal sculpture. “I saw the barn falling down, and then the idea came to build a wave,” Fennell said. He built the barn “wave” in 2000 at the University of Georgia, then followed it by fusing 150 bicycles together to create a “tornado” in 2001. Using discarded objects to create sculpture has become his theme.”
Clair Osborn, Austin American Statesman, 2005

The Hedgehog House is a new site-built sculpture based upon Fennell's Tree House, pictured above.

www.cfennell.org
“Introspection”
Larry Young
Columbia, Missouri
Medium: Bronze

Larry Young has been a full-time artist for over 30 years and has installed over 50 outdoor sculptures nationally and abroad. He creates monumental sculpture of bold, fluid forms at his own foundry in Columbia, Missouri. His work expresses his fascination with some of the bigger questions in life: the origins of mankind, the relationships of man, and humanity’s destinations through the study of human movement and classical composition.

The perimeter human form of Introspection reveals another human form inside to capture the essence of reflection or introspection.

www.youngsculpture.com
Juror: Glen Gentele, Director of Laumeier Sculpture Park in St. Louis, Missouri, Aronson Endowed Professor for Modern and Contemporary Art at the University of Missouri, St. Louis. Gentele has over 16 years experience as a museum professional. He earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts from Florida State University and his Master of Fine Arts Degree from the Maryland Institute College of Art.

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If interested in purchasing a sculpture, contact the City Managers Office (785) 832-3400, lawrenceks.org/cmo

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