

"We Have Tomorrow – Bright Before Us, Like A Flame." *Langston Hughes*



SAILING SHIPS BY KRISTIN GARNANT

Another artwork featured in this year's Outdoor Downtown Sculpture Exhibition is pictured above, *Sailing Ships*, by Kristin Garnant. It's located in Buford M. Watson, Jr. Park near 7th St.

*Sailing Ships* features a collection of delicate vessels, each crafted with a steel frame wrapped in grapevine and fabric sails that sway gently in the wind. Small brass bells add a soft, melodic sound, creating an enchanting effect as if the ships are sailing through the trees.



## 35th Annual Outdoor Downtown Sculpture Exhibition

This year's edition of the Outdoor Downtown Sculpture Exhibition (ODSE) opened at the end of May with seven new pieces (along with some from prior years) for you to visit.

The ODSE includes sculptural artworks created by local and regional artists. The artworks showcase a variety of styles and media and are selected for the exhibition by the Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission.

"This temporary public art exhibition is one of the most popular programs that the Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission oversees," said Daniel Smith, Chair of Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission. "The selection process is arduous, as we are fortunate to receive a lot of great submissions each year. We strive to pick pieces that represent our community while offering a variety of styles and mediums."

The artworks featured in this year's ODSE are:

- *Constant Change* by Pat Slimmer located on the east side of Mass St. between 8th & 9th streets.
- *There, There* by Suzan Hampton located at Prairie Park, 2730 Harper St.
- *The Farmer* by Mara Strayer, located at the Carnegie Building.

- *We Are One* by Myles Schachter, located at the northeast corner of 8th & Massachusetts streets.
- *Tower of Code* by V. Skip Willits located in South Park.
- *Bird's Nest* by Rollin Karg, located at the southeast corner of 6th & Massachusetts streets.
- *Sailing Ships* by Kristin Garnant located at Buford M. Watson, Jr. Park.

The artwork featured above this article is *The Farmer* by Mara Strayer. Mara is a University of Kansas graduate who gets inspiration for her work from our state's rich agricultural history and the dedication of farmers.

"The ODSE has given me such a confidence boost and opened my eyes to possibilities," said Strayer. "I couldn't get enough of learning about the other artists and their work either. I think the public should take the time to listen and read about each work in the ODSE. It's not until you read the stories, background, techniques and inspiration that you can truly appreciate each piece."

*Continued on back*

### OUR MISSION

We create a  
community where  
all enjoy life and  
feel at home.

City information is available at [lawrenceks.org](http://lawrenceks.org) and on cable Channel 25.

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## ODSE CONTINUED

Mara's piece is located in front of the Carnegie Building at the northwest corner of 8th & Vermont. It's next to another piece from Mara that was featured in last year's ODSE, *Trophy Wheat*.

Another artist featuring works in back-to-back years of the ODSE is local artist Myles Schachter who operates 2Sculpt, a stone carving operation and workshop program just south of Lawrence.

For last year's ODSE, Myles had a sculpture, *Human Matrix*, at the corner of 8th & Massachusetts streets. He will be installing his new artwork, *We Are One*, in the same spot this year. The pieces he has featured in this exhibition have all had a theme of diversity.

"This sculpture [*We Are One*] is composed of carved stones from five countries. The colors - yellow, white, red and black - represent some of the peoples of the world," said Schachter. "These are also the colors of the Lakota tribe representing the four cardinal directions - encompassing all lands, all peoples."

Our community is invited to view this year's artworks in a self-guided tour as they're located throughout Lawrence, with most in Downtown Lawrence. The map of sculpture locations is online at: [lawrenceks.org/odse](http://lawrenceks.org/odse).

"I'm personally a big fan of art that is challenging and I hope that each year people find a few new pieces that they love, while also interrogating why they love them, and what sets those pieces apart from ones they might otherwise overlook," said Smith. "With public art, placing the sculptures or installations is only part of the goal. How individuals engage with public art is itself an integral part of the process"

The City also uses Otocast, which is an app that guides you on a tour of the various pieces in this year's program as well as some sculptures still on display from previous years. You can download Otocast from any app store. More information and links to download Otocast are on the ODSE webpage: [lawrenceks.org/odse](http://lawrenceks.org/odse).

The ODSE is coordinated by the Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission with City staff support from the Parks, Recreation, Arts, and Culture department. It honors the memory of James Patti, who founded the Outdoor Downtown Sculpture Exhibition in 1987. His vision continues to make a lasting impact, ensuring that this program remains a beloved highlight in our community!

## WATER USAGE TIPS

# Use your water wisely this summer!

Kansas summers get HOT, and we're all using extra water this time of year. With the City's inclining block rate\* structure for billing water usage, excessive water use in the summer can really add up for Lawrence residents.

Keeping your lawn green can be one of the biggest uses of water in the summer. If you're irrigating, follow these helpful tips to get the most bang for your buck:

- Water early in the morning or in the evening to reduce evaporation and allow more water to reach your lawn's root zone.
- Water only when needed, not on a set schedule. If your grass springs back after you step on it, it doesn't need watering.
- Water your garden by hand or use drip irrigation rather than sprinklers.
- Use a rain barrel to capture water running off your roof to water your garden. Get information about making your own rain barrel at [lawrenceks.org/stormwater](http://lawrenceks.org/stormwater).
- Mowing at the highest setting on your mower will encourage deeper grass roots, which will reduce the need for watering during dry spells.
- Use a rain gauge to determine when your lawn needs water and to measure how much you're applying. Generally, turf grasses need  $\frac{3}{4}$ -1" of water per week. If rain is forecasted, hold off on watering.

Beyond keeping your outdoor watering in check this summer, there are other ways

to conserve and keep your bill low. Here are some helpful tips from our team:

- Fix leaky faucets, showerheads and toilets, which can add up to gallons of water lost every day.
- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth. Letting the water run while brushing can send gallons of wasted water down the drain.
- Take showers, not baths. Showers use less water (just keep an eye on how long you've been in there).
- Plug your sink or use a wash basin if washing dishes by hand.
- Use a dishwasher – and make sure it is fully loaded!
- Scrape your plate, rather than rinsing it, before loading it into the dishwasher.
- Throw food scraps in the trash rather than using your garbage disposal. (This one helps our sanitary sewer system, too!)
- Keep a pitcher of water in the fridge instead of letting the faucet run until the water gets cold.
- Thaw meat in the fridge overnight rather than using running hot water.
- Wash only full loads of laundry or select the appropriate water level or load size on the washing machine.

\*Learn more about the inclining block rate structure for water billing on our website: [lawrenceks.org/utility-billing/inclining-block](http://lawrenceks.org/utility-billing/inclining-block).



**SUMMER FEST**  
JULY 3  
Douglas County Fairgrounds  
2120 Harper Street

**DRONE SHOW,  
LIVE MUSIC,  
ACTIVITIES,  
CRAFT SHOW,  
& MORE!**

Lawrence  
KANSAS

Join the City of Lawrence at Summerfest 2024! This unmistakable and exciting event is coming back to the Douglas County Fairgrounds on Wednesday, July 3.

This year's Summerfest will feature:

- Food Trucks beginning at 4 p.m.
- Live music from 4 to 9 p.m.
- Crafts Festival from 3 to 8:30 p.m.
- DRONE SHOW beginning at 9:45 p.m.

More details on this year's event, including a map of the fairgrounds, is on the event webpage: [lawrenceks.org/summerfest](http://lawrenceks.org/summerfest).

Please note: This year's Summer Fest is featuring a drone show instead of fireworks. There will not be fireworks at this event. Please remember that Lawrence is a fireworks-free city. More information on fireworks rules and regulations is on our website: [lawrenceks.org/fireworks](http://lawrenceks.org/fireworks)