



Village of Downers Grove

## Report for the Village Council Meeting

*Table 1 - Council Agenda item.*

<b>Subject</b>	Authorize Execution of a Contract for Public Art Selection and Installation with Sculpture Milwaukee
<b>Submitted By</b>	David Fieldman, Village Manager

### Synopsis

A motion authorizing the execution of a contract with Sculpture Milwaukee for the selection and installation of public art in Linda Kunze Plaza and three flexible amenity areas in an amount not to exceed \$400,000 has been prepared.

### Strategic Plan Alignment

The 2025-2027 Long Range Plan includes *Develop a Public Art Program* as a Priority Action Item.

### Fiscal Impact

The cost of this contract will not exceed \$400,000. The Fiscal Year 2026 Budget includes \$400,000 for this project in the Capital Projects Fund.

## Recommendation

This item was discussed at the April 14, 2025 Village Council meeting. Staff recommends approval on the April 21, 2026 Active Agenda.

## Background

As part of the 2025-2027 Long Range Plan, the Village Council identified *Develop a Public Art Program* as a Priority Action Item. The project consists of creating a public art program to address program management, governance, funding, project selection, community engagement and program evaluation. The initial phase of the project consists of a Village operated program focused on installing art in Linda Kunze Plaza and selected downtown flexible amenity areas.

In November, 2025 the Village Council established the Guiding Principles to direct the art installation (included at the end of this report).

In February, 2026 the Village Council directed staff to issue a Request for Proposals for this project. The RFP was issued in March. Nine compliant proposals and one incomplete proposal were received including three from firms that manage public art programs, six from artists and one from a local not-for-profit seeking the installation of a statue of a specific former Downers Grove resident.

Staff duly considered all proposals and interviewed four of the respondents. Staff recommends execution of the attached contract with Sculpture Milwaukee, which includes the following key terms:

Sculpture Milwaukee will oversee the selection, coordination and installation of four sculptural artworks at Linda Kunze Plaza and three downtown flexible amenity areas.

Sculpture Milwaukee will participate in up to two community visioning sessions and up to two stakeholder meetings to provide guidance on the art installations.

Sculpture Milwaukee will select the art installations which will consist of newly commissioned sculptures and acquired existing sculptures.

Sculpture Milwaukee will review and consider artists presented to them by the Village for consideration.

Sculpture Milwaukee will present the final art installations to staff for review and approval.

Sculpture Milwaukee will lead and participate in programming, marketing and communications as directed by the Village to promote the art installations.

Sculpture Milwaukee will adhere to a project schedule which calls for the installations to be completed by May 31, 2027.

Since 2017, Sculpture Milwaukee has successfully presented more than 160 across nine citywide exhibitions. They have demonstrated that their proven model for selecting, installing and promoting public art.

### **Guiding Principles**

- Is Relative to Downers Grove, Unique to Downers Grove
- Is Authentic and Timeless
- Is Vibrant, Attractive
- Is Welcoming and Inclusive to All Visitors
- Is Suitable for Viewing by All Ages
- Creates Placemaking and Sense of Belonging
- Reflects a Balance between Tradition and Progress

- Is Durable, Resilient in Design & Composition, Withstands Extreme Weather
- Looks Great All Year
- Requires Little Maintenance
- Fits On or In the Art Space within the Flexible Amenity Areas
- Is of an Appropriate Scale for Its Location
- Is Non-Controversial - Avoids Negative Attention
- Allows for Interaction with the Public
- Is suitable/desirable for Photos and Posting on Social Media

## **Attachments**

Contract Document



Village of Downers Grove

Council Action Summary

Table 1 - Council Action Summary.

<b>Initiated By</b>	Village Attorney
<b>Effective Date</b>	April 21, 2026
<b>Recommendation From</b>	
<b>File Reference</b>	
<b>Nature of Action</b>	Motion

**Steps Needed to Implement Action.**

Motion to authorize the execution of a contract with Sculpture Milwaukee for the selection and installation of public art in Linda Kunze Plaza and three flexible amenity areas.

**Summary of Item.**

Adoption of this motion shall authorize execution of a contact with Sculpture Milwaukee for public art.

**Record of Action Taken.**

---



---



---



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (Professional Services)

Name of Proposing Company: Sculpture Milwaukee

Project Name: Public Art for Downtown Flexible Amenity Areas and  
Linda Kunze Plaza

Proposal No.: RFP-021326-0-2026/MT

Proposal Due: March 13, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. CST

**Required of Awarded Proposer:**

Certificate of Insurance: Yes

Date Issued: February 13, 2026

This document consists of 22 pages.

Return **original** copy of proposal and 2 copies (no staples, bindings or spines) in a **sealed envelope** marked with the Proposal Name/Number as noted above to

MATTHEW TIMMERBERG  
ASSISTANT TO THE VILLAGE MANAGER  
VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE  
850 CURTISS STREET  
DOWNERS GROVE, IL 60515  
PHONE: 630/434-8875  
[www.downers.us](http://www.downers.us)

The VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE will receive proposals Monday thru Friday, 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. at the Downers Grove Civic Center, 850 Curtiss St., Downers Grove, IL 60515.

### **ELECTRONIC BIDDING**

The Village of Downers Grove accepts proposals submitted electronically. All proposers must be registered with DemandStar in order to access bid documents and submit an electronic proposal. If you are not registered, a free agency subscription to the Village of Downers Grove account is available by going to [www.demandstar.com/register.rsp](http://www.demandstar.com/register.rsp). If you are registered with DemandStar, but subscribed to another agency, you do not need to modify your subscription. The Village maintains an Open Access account whereby all bidding information and e-bidding capabilities are accessible under any subscription plan. Incomplete submittals may be rejected as non-responsive. Infrequent or first-time users of electronic bidding are encouraged to upload their proposals at least 24 hours prior to bid opening. The Village is not responsible for submittal errors or incomplete proposal submissions. For technical issues or concerns, proposers may contact DemandStar Supplier support directly at [hello@demandstar.com](mailto:hello@demandstar.com) or at 866-273-1863. All proposals must be received prior to the Due Date and Time set forth above and on the cover page of this document. Bid Opening will be conducted in person at where all proposals received will be publicly opened and read aloud immediately following the Due Date and Time. Proposers, their authorized agents, and interested parties are invited to join

### **SPECIFICATIONS MUST BE MET AT THE TIME THE PROPOSAL IS DUE.**

The Village Council reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals, to waive technicalities and to accept or reject any item of any proposal.

The documents constituting component parts of this Contract are the following:

- I. REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
- II. TERMS & CONDITIONS
- III. DETAILED SPECIFICATIONS
- IV. PROPOSER'S RESPONSE TO RFP (Professional Services)
- V. PROPOSAL/CONTRACT FORM

**DO NOT DETACH ANY PORTION OF THIS DOCUMENT. INVALIDATION COULD RESULT.** Proposers MUST submit an original copy of the total proposal. Upon formal award of the proposal this RFP document shall become the Contract, the successful Proposer will receive a copy of the executed Contract.

**PLEASE DO NOT BIND ANY PORTION OF THE BID WITH STAPLES, BINDINGS OR SPINES.**

## **I. REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

### **1. GENERAL**

1.1 Notice is hereby given that the Village of Downers Grove will receive sealed Proposals up to the time and date set forth on the cover page of this RFP.

1.2 Proposals must be received at the Village of Downers Grove by the time and date specified. Proposals received after the specified time and date will not be accepted and will be returned unopened to the Proposer.

1.3 Proposal forms shall be sent to the Village of Downers Grove, ATTN: MATTHEW TIMMERBERG, in a sealed envelope marked "SEALED PROPOSAL". The envelope shall be marked with the name of the project, date, and time set for receipt of Proposals. Alternatively, Proposals may be submitted through [demandstar.com](https://demandstar.com).

1.4 All Proposals must be submitted on the forms supplied by the Village and signed by a proper official of the company submitting the Proposal. Telephone, email and fax Proposals will not be accepted.

1.5 By submitting this Proposal, the Proposer certifies under penalty of perjury that they have not acted in collusion with any other Proposer or potential Proposer.

### **2. PREPARATION OF PROPOSAL**

2.1 It is the responsibility of the Proposer to carefully examine the specifications and proposal documents and to be familiar with all of the requirements, stipulations, provisions, and conditions surrounding the proposed services. **DO NOT SUBMIT A PROPOSED CONTRACT. UPON ACCEPTANCE BY THE VILLAGE, THIS RFP DOCUMENT SHALL BECOME A BINDING CONTRACT.**

2.2 No oral or telephone interpretations of specifications shall be binding upon the Village. All requests for interpretations or clarifications shall be made in writing and received by the Village at least five (5) business days prior to the date set for receipt of Proposals. All changes or interpretations of the specifications shall be made by the Village in a written addendum to the Village's proposers of record.

2.3 In case of error in the extension of prices in the Proposal, the hourly rate or unit price will govern. In case of discrepancy in the price between the written and numerical amounts, the written amount will govern.

2.4 All costs incurred in the preparation, submission, and/or presentation of any Proposal including any Proposer's travel or personal expenses shall be the sole responsibility of the Proposer and will not be reimbursed by the Village.

2.5 The Proposer hereby affirms and states that the prices quoted herein constitute the total cost to the Village for all work involved in the respective items and that this cost also includes all insurance, bonds, royalties, transportation charges, use of all tools and equipment, superintendence, overhead expense, all profits and all other work, services and conditions

necessarily involved in the work to be done and materials to be furnished in accordance with the requirements of the Contract Documents considered severally and collectively.

### **3. MODIFICATION OR WITHDRAWAL OF PROPOSALS**

3.1 A Proposal that is in the possession of the Village may be altered by a letter bearing the signature of the person authorized for submitting a Proposal, provided that it is received prior to the time and date set for the Proposal opening. Telephone, email or verbal alterations of a Proposal will not be accepted.

3.2 A Proposal that is in the possession of the Village may be withdrawn by the Proposer, up to the time set for the Proposal opening, by a letter bearing the signature of the person authorized for submitting Proposals. Proposals may not be withdrawn after the Proposal opening and shall remain valid for a period of ninety (90) days from the date set for the Proposal opening, unless otherwise specified.

### **4. RESERVED RIGHTS**

4.1 The Village reserves the exclusive right to waive sections, technicalities, irregularities and informalities and to accept or reject any and all Proposals and to disapprove of any and all subcontractors as may be in the best interest of the Village. Time and date requirements for receipt of Proposals will not be waived.

## **II. TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **5. VILLAGE ORDINANCES**

5.1 The successful Proposer will strictly comply with all ordinances of the Village of Downers Grove and laws of the State of Illinois.

### **6. USE OF VILLAGE'S NAME**

6.1 The Proposer is specifically denied the right of using in any form or medium the name of the Village for public advertising unless express permission is granted by the Village.

### **7. INDEMNITY AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT**

7.1 To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Proposer shall indemnify, keep and save harmless the Village and its agents, officers, and employees, against all injuries, deaths, losses, damages, claims, suits, liabilities, judgments, costs and expenses, which may arise directly or indirectly from any negligence or from the reckless or willful misconduct of the Proposer, its employees, or its subcontractors, and the Proposer shall at its own expense, appear, defend and pay all charges of attorneys and all costs and other expenses arising therefrom or incurred in connection therewith, and, if any judgment shall be rendered against the Village in any such action, the Proposer shall, at its own expense, satisfy and discharge the same. This agreement shall not be construed as requiring the Proposer to indemnify the Village for its own negligence. The Proposer shall indemnify, keep and save harmless the Village only where a loss was caused by the negligent, willful or reckless acts or omissions of the Proposer, its employees, or its subcontractors.

### **8. NONDISCRIMINATION**

8.1 Proposer shall, as a party to a public contract:

(a) Refrain from unlawful discrimination in employment and undertake affirmative action to assure equality of employment opportunity and eliminate the effects of past discrimination;

(b) By submission of this Proposal, the Proposer certifies that it is an "equal opportunity employer" as defined by Section 2000(e) of Chapter 21, Title 42, U.S. Code Annotated and Executive Orders #11136 and #11375, which are incorporated herein by reference. The Equal Opportunity clause, Section 6.1 of the Rules and Regulations of the Department of Human Rights of the State of Illinois, is a material part of any contract awarded on the basis of this Proposal.

8.2 It is unlawful to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, marital status, national origin or ancestry, age, physical or mental disability unrelated to ability, military status, order of protection status, sexual orientation, sexual identity, or an unfavorable discharge from military service. Proposer shall comply with standards set forth in Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 2000 *et seq.*, The Human Rights Act of the State of Illinois, 775 ILCS 5/1-101 *et seq.*, and The Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 *et seq.*

## **9. SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY**

9.1 The Proposer, as a party to a public contract, shall have a written sexual harassment policy that:

- 9.1.1 Notes the illegality of sexual harassment;
- 9.1.2 Sets forth the State law definition of sexual harassment;
- 9.1.3 Describes sexual harassment utilizing examples;
- 9.1.4 Describes the Proposer's internal complaint process including penalties;
- 9.1.5 Describes the legal recourse, investigative and complaint process available through the Illinois Department of Human Rights and the Human Rights Commission and how to contact these entities; and
- 9.1.6 Describes the protection against retaliation afforded under the Illinois Human Rights Act.

## **10. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

10.1 In the event of the Proposer's non-compliance with the provisions of this Equal Employment Opportunity Clause, the Illinois Human Rights Act or the Rules and Regulations of the Illinois Department of Human Rights ("Department"), the Proposer may be declared ineligible for future contracts or subcontracts with the State of Illinois or any of its political subdivisions or municipal corporations, and the Contract may be canceled or voided in whole or in part, and such other sanctions or penalties may be imposed or remedies invoked as provided by statute or regulation. During the performance of this Contract, the Proposer agrees as follows:

10.1.1 That it will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, marital status, national origin or ancestry, age, physical or mental disability unrelated to ability, order of protection status, military status, sexual orientation, sexual identity or an unfavorable discharge from military service; and further that it will examine all job classifications to determine if minority persons or women are underutilized and will take appropriate affirmative action to rectify any such underutilization.

10.1.2 That, if it hires additional employees in order to perform this Contract or any portion thereof, it will determine the availability (in accordance with the Department's Rules and Regulations) of minorities and women in the area(s) from which it may reasonably recruit and it will hire for each job classification for which employees are hired in such a way that minorities and women are not underutilized.

10.1.3 That, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by it or on its behalf, it will state that all applicants will be afforded equal opportunity without discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, marital status, national origin or ancestry, age, physical or mental disability unrelated to ability, order of protection status, military status, sexual orientation, or an unfavorable discharge from military services.

10.1.4 That it will send to each labor organization or representative of workers with which it has or is bound by a collective bargaining or other agreement or understanding, a notice advising such labor organization or representative of the Proposer's obligations under the Illinois Human Rights Act and the Department's Rules and Regulations. If any such labor organization or representative fails or refuses to cooperate with the Proposer in its efforts to comply with such Act and Rules and Regulations, the Proposer will promptly notify the Department and the contracting agency and will recruit employees from other sources when necessary to fulfill its obligations thereunder.

10.1.5 That it will submit reports as required by the Department's Rules and Regulations, furnish all relevant information as may from time to time be requested by the Department or the contracting agency, and in all respects comply with the Illinois Human Rights Act and the Department's Rules and Regulations.

10.1.6 That it will permit access to all relevant books, records, accounts and work sites by personnel of the contracting agency and the Department for purpose of investigation to ascertain compliance with the Illinois Human Rights Act and the Department's Rules and Regulations.

10.1.7 That it will include verbatim or by reference the provisions of this clause in every subcontract it awards under which any portion of the contract obligations are undertaken or assumed, so that such provisions will be binding upon such subcontractor. In the same manner as with other provisions of this Contract, the Proposer will be liable for compliance with applicable provisions of this clause by such subcontractors; and further it will promptly notify the contracting agency and the Department in the event any subcontractor fails or refuses to comply therewith. In addition, the Proposer will not utilize any subcontractor declared by the Illinois Human Rights Commission to be ineligible for contracts or subcontracts with the State of Illinois or any of its political subdivisions or municipal corporations.

## **11. DRUG FREE WORK PLACE**

Proposer, as a party to a public contract, certifies and agrees that it will provide a drug free workplace by:

11.1 Publishing a statement: (1) Notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of a controlled substance, including cannabis, is prohibited in the Village's or Proposer's workplace. (2) Specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition. (3) Notifying the employee that, as a

condition of employment on such contract or grant, the employee will: (A) abide by the terms of the statement; and (B) notify the employer of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than five (5) days after such conviction.

11.2 Establishing a drug free awareness program to inform employees about: (1) the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace; (2) the Village's or Proposer's policy of maintaining a drug free workplace; (3) any available drug counseling, rehabilitation and employee assistance programs; (4) the penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug violations.

11.3 Providing a copy of the statement required above to each employee engaged in the performance of the contract or grant and to post the statement in a prominent place in the workplace.

11.4 Notifying the contracting or granting agency within ten (10) days after receiving notice of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction.

11.5 Imposing a sanction on, or requiring the satisfactory participation in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program by, any employee who is so convicted as required by section 5 of the Drug Free Workplace Act.

11.6 Assisting employees in selecting a course of action in the event drug counseling, treatment and rehabilitation is required and indicating that a trained referral team is in place.

11.7 Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug free workplace through implementation of the Drug Free Workplace Act.

## **12. PATRIOT ACT COMPLIANCE**

**12.1** The Proposer represents and warrants to the Village that neither it nor any of its principals, shareholders, members, partners, or affiliates, as applicable, is a person or entity named as a Specially Designated National and Blocked Person (as defined in Presidential Executive Order 13224) and that it is not acting, directly or indirectly, for or on behalf of a Specially Designated National and Blocked Person. The Proposer further represents and warrants to the Village that the Proposer and its principals, shareholders, members, partners, or affiliates, as applicable are not, directly or indirectly, engaged in, and are not facilitating, the transactions contemplated by this Contract on behalf of any person or entity named as a Specially Designated National and Blocked Person. The Proposer hereby agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Village, and its elected or appointed officers, employees, agents, representatives, engineers and attorneys, from and against any and all claims, damages, losses, risks, liabilities and expenses (including reasonable attorney's fees and costs) arising from or related to any breach of the foregoing representations and warranties.

## **13. INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS**

**13.1** The Proposer shall be required to obtain, from a company or companies lawfully authorized to do business in the jurisdiction in which the project is located, such general liability insurance which, at a minimum, will protect the Proposer from the types of claims set forth below which may arise out of or result from the Proposer's operations under this Contract and for which the Proposer may legally liable:

13.1.1 Claims under workers compensation, disability benefit and other similar employee benefit acts which are applicable to the operation to be performed;

13.1.2 Claims for damages resulting from bodily injury, occupational sickness or disease, or death of the Proposer's employees;

13.1.3 Claims for damages resulting from bodily injury, sickness or disease, or death of any person other than the Proposer's employees;

13.1.4 Claims for damages insured by the usual personal injury liability coverage which are sustained: (1) by a person as a result of an offense directly or indirectly related to employment of such person by the Proposer, or (2) by another person;

13.1.5 Claims for damages, other than to the work itself, because of injury to or destruction of tangible property, including loss of use resulting therefrom;

13.1.6 Claims for damages because of bodily injury, death of a person or property damage arising out of ownership, maintenance or use of a motor vehicle;

13.1.7 Claims for damages as a result of professional or any other type of negligent action by the Proposer or failure to properly perform services under the scope of the agreement between the Proposer and the Village.

13.2 The Proposer shall demonstrate having insurance coverage for a minimum of \$2 million for professional liability (errors and omissions).

13.3 As evidence of said coverages, Proposer shall provide the Village with certificates of insurance naming the Village of Downers Grove as an additional insured and include a provision for cancellation only upon at least 30 days prior notice to the Village.

#### **14. CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE**

14.1 Any contractor, proposer, bidder or vendor who responds by submitting a bid or proposal to the Village shall be required to submit with its submission, an executed Campaign Disclosure Certificate, attached hereto.

14.2 The Campaign Disclosure Certificate is required pursuant to the Village of Downers Grove Council Policy on Ethical Standards and is applicable to those campaign contributions made to any member of the Village Council.

14.3 Said Campaign Disclosure Certificate requires any individual or entity bidding to disclose campaign contributions, as defined in Section 9-1.4 of the Election Code (10 ILCS 5/9-1.4), made to current members of the Village Council within the five (5) year period preceding the date of the bid or proposal release.

14.4 By signing the bid or proposal documents, contractor/proposer/bidder/vendor agrees to refrain from making any campaign contributions as defined in Section 9-1.4 of the Election Code (10 ILCS 5/9-1.4) to any Village Council member and any challengers seeking to serve as a

member of the Downers Grove Village Council.

## **15. SUBLETTING OF CONTRACT**

15.1 No contract awarded by the Village shall be assigned or any part subcontracted without the written consent of the Village Manager. In no case shall such consent relieve the Proposer from its obligation or change the terms of the Contract.

All approved subcontracts shall contain language which incorporates the terms and conditions of this Contract.

## **16. TERM OF CONTRACT**

16.1 The term of this Contract shall be as set forth in the Detail Specifications set forth in Section III below. This Contract is subject to the Village purchasing policy with regard to any extensions hereof.

## **17. TERMINATION OF CONTRACT**

17.1 In the event of the Proposer's nonperformance, breach of the terms of the Contract, or for any other reason, and/or that sufficient funds to complete the Contract are not appropriated by the Village, the Contract may be canceled, in whole or in part, upon the Village's written notice to the Proposer. The Village will pay the Proposer's costs actually incurred as of the date of receipt of notice of default. Upon termination, the Proposer will deliver all documents and products of whatever kind, and their reproducible originals related to the project, which have been produced to the date of the notice of termination.

## **18. BILLING & PAYMENT PROCEDURES**

18.1 Payment will be made upon receipt of an invoice referencing Village purchase order number. Once an invoice and receipt of materials or service have been verified, the invoice will be processed for payment in accordance with the Village payment schedule. The Village will comply with the Local Government Prompt Payment Act, 50 ILCS 505/1 *et seq.*, in that any bill approved for payment must be paid or the payment issued to the Proposer within 60 days of receipt of a proper bill or invoice. If payment is not issued to the Proposer within this 60 day period, an interest penalty of 1.0% of any amount approved and unpaid shall be added for each month or fraction thereof after the end of this 60 day period, until final payment is made.

18.2 The Village shall review in a timely manner each bill or invoice after its receipt. If the Village determines that the bill or invoice contains a defect making it unable to process the payment request, the Village shall notify the Proposer requesting payment as soon as possible after discovering the defect pursuant to rules promulgated under 50 ILCS 505/1 *et seq.* The notice shall identify the defect and any additional information necessary to correct the defect.

18.3 Please send all invoices to the attention of Matt Timmerberg, Assistant to the Village Manager, Downers Grove Civic Center, 850 Curtiss St., Downers Grove, IL 60515.

## **19. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PROPOSER AND THE VILLAGE**

19.1 The relationship between the Village and the Proposer is that of a buyer and seller of professional services and it is understood that the parties have not entered into any joint venture or partnership with the other.

**20. STANDARD OF CARE**

20.1. Services performed by Proposer under this Contract will be conducted in a manner consistent with that level of care and skill ordinarily exercised by members of the profession currently practicing in the same locality under similar conditions. No other representations express or implied, and no warranty or guarantee is included or intended in this Contract, or in any report, opinions, and documents or otherwise.

20.2 If the Proposer fails to meet the foregoing standard, Proposer will perform at its own cost, and without reimbursement from the Village, the professional services necessary to correct errors and omissions caused by Proposer's failure to comply with the above standard and reported to Proposer within one (1) year from the completion of Proposer's services for the Project.

20.3 For Professional Service Agreements: Project site visits by Proposer during construction or equipment installation or the furnishing of Project representatives shall not make Proposer responsible for: (i) construction means, methods, techniques, sequences or procedures; (ii) for construction safety precautions or programs; or (iii) for any construction contractor(s)' failure to perform its work in accordance with contract documents.

**21. GOVERNING LAW AND VENUE**

21.1 This Contract will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Illinois without regard for the conflict of laws provisions. Venue is proper only in the County of DuPage and the Northern District of Illinois.

**22. SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS**

22.1 The terms of this Contract will be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties and their respective successors and assigns; provided, however, that neither party will assign this Contract in whole or in part without the prior written approval of the other. The Proposer will provide a list of key staff, titles, responsibilities, and contact information to include all expected subcontractors.

**23. WAIVER OF CONTRACT BREACH**

23.1 The waiver by one party of any breach of this Contract or the failure of one party to enforce at any time, or for any period of time, any of the provisions hereof will be limited to the particular instance and will not operate or be deemed to waive any future breaches of this Contract and will not be construed to be a waiver of any provision except for the particular instance.

**24. AMENDMENT**

24.1 This Contract will not be subject to amendment unless made in writing and signed by all parties.

**25. NOT TO EXCEED CONTRACT**

25.1 The contract price is a "not-to-exceed" cost. At any time additional work is necessary or requested, and the not-to-exceed price is increased thereby, any change, addition or price increase must be agreed to in writing by all parties who have executed the Contract.

**26. SEVERABILITY OF INVALID PROVISIONS**

26.1 If any provisions of this Contract are held to contravene or be invalid under the laws of

any state, country or jurisdiction, contravention will not invalidate the entire Contract, but it will be construed as if not containing the invalid provision and the rights or obligations of the parties will be construed and enforced accordingly.

**27. NOTICE**

27.1 Any notice will be in writing and will be deemed to be effectively served when deposited in the mail with sufficient first class postage affixed, and addressed to the party at the party's place of business. Notices shall be addressed to the Village as follows:

**Village Manager  
Village of Downers Grove  
850 Curtiss St.  
Downers Grove, IL 60515**

And to the Proposer as designated in the Contract Form.

**28. COOPERATION WITH FOIA COMPLIANCE**

28.1 Proposer acknowledges that the Freedom of Information Act does apply to public records in possession of the Proposer or a subcontractor. Proposer and all of its subcontractors shall cooperate with the Village in its efforts to comply with the Freedom of Information Act. (5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.*)

**29. COPYRIGHT or PATENT INFRINGEMENT**

29.1 The Proposer agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Village against any suit, claim, or proceeding brought against the Village for alleged use of any equipment, systems, or services provided by the Proposer that constitutes a misuse of any proprietary or trade secret information or an infringement of any patent or copyright.

**30. DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE) CERTIFICATION**

30.1 Pursuant to 35 ILCS 200/18-50.2, Contractor and all subcontractors are required to complete and submit a Vendor DBE certification, regardless of DBE status. Contractor shall complete and require all its subcontractors to complete the DBE certification for this project at [www.downers.us/vss](http://www.downers.us/vss). The information necessary for the Contractor and all subcontractors to complete the certification includes the following: DBE Classification (minority-owned, women-owned, persons with disabilities-owned, veteran-owned, or none); if DBE, whether the company holds a certificate or self-certifies; if self-certifying, whether the company qualifies as a small business under the U.S. Small Business Administration standards; the company's name, address, city, state and zip code; company's contact person's name, title, telephone number and email address. **NO PAYMENTS WILL BE MADE TO THE CONTRACTOR BY THE VILLAGE UNLESS AND UNTIL ALL OF THE CERTIFICATIONS FOR THE CONTRACTOR AND SUBCONTRACTORS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.**

**31. ACCESSIBLE WEB CONTENT**

31.1 Any web content published by Proposer shall be readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities when required by 28 CFR 35.200, *et seq.*

### **III. DETAIL SPECIFICATIONS**

#### **Request for Proposals:**

Selection and/or Commissioning of Public Art for Downtown Flexible Amenity Areas and Linda Kunze Plaza

#### **Background**

The Village of Downers Grove has a vibrant downtown with a variety of shops, restaurants, entertainment destinations, and one of the busiest commuter train stations in the region. Downtown Downers Grove is also home to several special events including the Fine Arts Festival, Rotary Grove Fest, and the Downtown Downers Grove Market. Between the many people that live in and around the downtown area, and downtown being a destination, hundreds of thousands of people visit, shop, work, and dine in downtown Downers Grove annually.

In 2025, the Village completed [Guiding DG](#), a significant community planning effort that describes a vision of Downers Grove for decades to come. Across the Guiding DG suite of plans are several goals and recommendations that are designed to further enhance and activate public spaces within the downtown area. More specifically, the [Guiding DG Streetscapes Plan](#) provides a detailed vision, including concept drawings, that will guide the installation of new Flexible Amenity Areas and a reimagined Linda Kunze Plaza that will expand public spaces for outdoor dining, gathering, additional landscaping, signage, and *public art*.

#### **Locations**

The initial phase of construction for projects identified in Guiding DG Streetscapes Plan will commence in 2026 and include Flexible Amenity Areas located on or in proximity to Main Street between Burlington Avenue and Maple Avenue, as well as the reconstruction of Linda Kunze Plaza outside the Main Street Train Station. In total, the concept plans for the locations in the 2026 phase of construction include four locations for public art:

1. Linda Kunze Plaza
2. Southeast corner of Main Street and Burlington Avenue
3. West side of Main Street between Burlington Avenue and Curtiss Street
4. Northeast corner of Main Street and Curtiss Street

Each location will include an installed foundation for the installation of artworks. The foundations will be embedded three feet (3.0') in the ground and flush with the surrounding landscaping beds. Any base for the art is to be included in the design to be affixed to the foundation. The foundation will be two and a half feet (2.5') by two and a half feet (2.5') in size.

For more information about the locations in which the public art shall be displayed, please see Exhibit A. Any person or firm desiring to submit a proposal is responsible for familiarizing themselves with the locations in which the public art is intended to be displayed.

### **Summary of Scope of Services**

The Village is seeking a firm, organization, or artist(s) to coordinate and manage the design and installation of four art pieces for the locations listed above. This can be accomplished through the selection and procurement of existing artwork, design and fabrication of new artworks, or a combination of both processes. Selected firms or individuals are also expected to collaborate with the Village to engage the public through workshops or other strategies that have proven successful in communities implementing public art programs. The Village welcomes proposals for both single art pieces at a specified location and/or the coordination of up to all four locations.

### **Guidelines for Public Art**

Through multiple public workshops, including Guiding DG, the Village has established the following desired attributes to guide the selection of public art:

- Is Relative to Downers Grove, Unique to Downers Grove
- Is Authentic and Timeless
- Is Vibrant, Attractive
- Is Welcoming and Inclusive to All Visitors
- Is Suitable for Viewing by All Ages
- Creates Placemaking and Sense of Belonging
- Reflects a Balance between Tradition and Progress
- Is Durable, Resilient in Design & Composition, Withstands Extreme Weather
- Looks Great All Year
- Requires Little Maintenance
- Fits On or In the Art Space within the Flexible Amenity Areas
- Is of an Appropriate Scale for Its Location
- Is Non-Controversial - Avoids Negative Attention
- Allows for Interaction with the Public
- Is suitable/desirable for Photos and Posting on Social Media

### **Budget**

The anticipated budget for providing the Scope of Services, including the cost of artwork and installation, is up to \$400,000. The anticipated budget has been allocated with up to \$200,000 for artwork in Linda Kunze Plaza, and up to \$200,000 for the three Flexible Amenity Areas.

### **Anticipated Timeline**

Proposals must be received by **4 pm on March 13, 2026** in order to be considered. It is anticipated that an evaluation of proposals meeting the requirements will be presented to Village Council with final contract award being approved by Village Council during a spring meeting of the Village Council.

The selected vendor(s) would then be expected to coordinate with the Village to host a community visioning session(s) and develop concepts or renderings of proposed artworks during **Summer of 2026**. Approval of concepts/renderings would take place by the end of **Summer of 2026**; at which time the vendor(s) may move forward with fabrication and/or procurement.

It is anticipated the construction of the Flexible Amenity Areas and Linda Kunze Plaza will take place between July and November. Artworks may be installed at any time following the completion of construction, but no later than **Spring of 2027**.

### **Successful Respondents**

The Village plans on selecting a firm, organization, or artist(s) that best meets the Village's needs. The Village's award determination will include the consideration of the following::

- Experience in successfully producing and placing outdoor public art
- Demonstrated ability to establish and adhere to a schedule for the art installation
- Proven ability to produce art consistent with the Guidelines for Public Art
- Experience in effectively incorporating public input into art design and placement

### **Submittal Requirements**

The Village recognizes that there are multiple strategies for completing the Scope of Services. As such, the Village welcomes proposals from firms that provide public art consulting services, galleries and curators, artists, and any organization capable of providing the described Scope of Services. All proposals should include the following at minimum:

- Contact Information: Name, Address, Telephone, Email
- Resume/CV for all individuals to be included in providing the Scope of Services
- Written narrative describing the anticipated process for completing the Scope of Services
- Proposed budget and timeline for completion of the project
- Visual examples of relevant projects completed in the past
- List of references
- Signed certifications included with this Request for Proposals

### **Copyright of the Public Art**

It is the intent of the Village that any Public Art created by the vendor shall be considered a "Work Made for Hire". The selected vendor shall be required to enter into appropriate agreements with the Village and/or waivers governing the ownership, display, alteration, use, relocation and destruction of the Public Art, which, at a minimum, shall provide the Village with exclusive control over the manner in which the Public Art may be displayed, altered, used, relocated and destroyed.

EXHIBIT A

# Location of Art

Burlington & Main (SE corner)



Linda Kunze Plaza



Main Street (West Side)



Curtiss & Main (NE corner)



#### **IV. PROPOSER'S RESPONSE TO RFP (Professional Services)**

**(Proposer must insert response to RFP here. DO NOT insert a form contract, the RFP document including detail specs and Proposer's response will become the Contract with the Village.)**

## Downtown Public Sculpture Initiative

*Presented by Sculpture Milwaukee for the Village of Downers Grove*

Sculpture Milwaukee (SM) will oversee the selection, coordination, and installation of four (4) sculptural artworks for the Village of Downers Grove as part of the public art initiative for the Downtown Flexible Amenity Areas and Linda Kunze Plaza. Our approach combines curatorial expertise, professional project management, and community engagement to deliver high-quality public art that reflects the character and aspirations of the community.

The proposed budget supports:

- One (1) sculpture installation in Linda Kunze Plaza
- Three (3) sculptures installed across the other preferred Downtown Flexible Amenity Area locations

Since 2017, Sculpture Milwaukee has presented more than 160 artworks across nine citywide exhibitions, activating sidewalks, parks, and plazas with free, 24/7 access to contemporary sculpture. Through these exhibitions, SM has developed a proven model for selecting, installing, and promoting public art that is both accessible and impactful.

We are long-term community advisors who work alongside municipalities and stakeholders to create meaningful cultural investments that deliver both immediate impact and lasting civic value.

### Commitment to Local & Regional Economic Impact

SM prioritizes hiring regional vendors and artist-owned companies, supporting the local economy and development of new specialty workforces.

- In 2025, more than 60% of SM vendors were regionally based
- At least 40% of those vendors were located in Milwaukee or Wisconsin

By hiring regional vendors, we help accelerate regional economic growth, generate new jobs, and strengthen the creative sector workforce. Expansion in arts employment also contributes positively to overall employment and economic vitality.

### Project Leadership

The project will be led by an experienced team:

**John Riepenhoff, Executive Director** will provide strategic leadership and oversee artist selection, municipal coordination, and overall project direction.

**Amy Kaczmarek, Director of Exhibitions**, will manage all logistical aspects of the project including artist coordination, artwork transportation, vendor relations, installation scheduling, and on-site implementation.

**Ellen Kullerstrand, Director of Marketing & Community Engagement**, will lead marketing, public relations, and community programming related to the project, ensuring the artworks are widely celebrated and integrated into the cultural life of the Village.

# SCULPTURE

## Project Process

### **I. Community Visioning and Site Understanding**

Following the project award, SM will work closely with Village staff and stakeholders to review the proposed public art locations and understand the goals for the Downtown Flexible Amenity Areas and Linda Kunze Plaza. SM will attend up to two (2) community visioning sessions and up to two (2) stakeholder meetings.

Drawing on our experience producing large-scale public art exhibitions, SM will evaluate the physical landscape, pedestrian activity, and surrounding architectural context to identify artworks that are appropriate in scale, material, and visual presence for each site. Based on this analysis, our curatorial team will develop a selection of potential sculpture options drawn from our collection or network of internationally recognized and emerging contemporary artists.

Conceptual mockups and renderings will be prepared to illustrate how each artwork would appear within the proposed locations. These visualizations will support collaborative discussions with Village staff and stakeholders to determine which artworks best align with the character of the space, the goals of the project, and the interests of the community.

This process allows the Village to review thoughtfully curated options while ensuring that the selected artworks complement the environment and contribute to a vibrant and welcoming public space.

### **II. Artist Identification and Artwork Selection**

Following the review of curated artwork options and site mockups, SM will work with Village staff to finalize the selection of sculptures. SM agrees to duly consider any artists that are referred to it by the Village.

SM will confirm artist availability and coordinate all necessary agreements related to acquisition or commissioning of the selected sculptures. At this stage, final technical details, including materials, dimensions, structural considerations, and installation requirements, will be reviewed to ensure compatibility with the prepared foundations and site conditions and prepared foundations.

- SM will also prepare final documentation and renderings for Village approval prior to moving forward with fabrication, procurement, or transportation planning. SM will ensure that that the sculptures will be suitable for the safe and secure placement on the pre-constructed pedestals provided by the Village at Linda Kunze Plaza and the Downtown Flexible Amenity Area locations.

### **III. Concept Development and Approval**

Once artworks are approved, SM will coordinate the procurement of existing sculptures or oversee the fabrication of newly commissioned works, depending on the final selections. SM will manage artist coordination, contracts, schedules, and technical documentation to ensure the artworks are produced according to approved designs and project timelines.

Throughout this process, SM will maintain regular communication with Village staff to ensure that fabrication or procurement remains aligned with budget, schedule, and installation requirements.

# SCULPTURE

## IV. Fabrication or Procurement

SM oversees all fabrication and procurement processes, coordinating closely with artists, fabricators, and technical partners to maintain quality control and project timelines. SM shall secure for the Village appropriate documentation from the artists, fabricators and technical partners, as the case may be, evidencing that the ownership to the copyright for any work commissioned by the Village through SM shall vest in the Village as a work made for hire. For existing works that are acquired, and not specifically commissioned on behalf the Village, SM shall secure from the artist, fabricators and technical partners, as the case may be, appropriate authorization for the Village to use, display and/or destroy the sculptures, including but not limited to the execution of a waiver of any rights created or recognized by the Visual Artists Rights Act of 1990 (17 U.S.C. §106A), in a form acceptable to the Village. The Village shall retain sole and exclusive authority with respect to the use, display, conveyance, or destruction of any sculptures procured pursuant to this agreement.

## V. Logistics, Transportation, and Installation

SM will manage all logistics associated with transportation and installation.

Amy Kaczmarek will coordinate with professional art handlers, fabricators, and installation vendors to ensure safe transport and proper installation of each sculpture. This includes scheduling deliveries, coordinating equipment and rigging, and working with contractors to securely install artworks on Village-prepared foundations.

SM's extensive experience managing complex installations in public environments ensures all works are installed safely, efficiently, and according to best practices for outdoor sculpture.

## VI. Project Oversight and Coordination

John Riepenhoff will provide overall leadership and oversight to ensure alignment with Village goals, timeline, and budget.

SM serves as the primary coordinator between artists, vendors, fabricators, and Village representatives, ensuring clear communication and efficient decision-making. Regular updates maintain transparency and smooth progress from concept approval through installation.

## VII. Community Engagement and Programming

Community engagement is a core component of Sculpture Milwaukee's public art model.

Programming will include:

- Artist talks for each installed sculpture (if desired by the Village)
- Public unveiling celebration events for each sculpture (if desired by the Village)
- Development and training of docents to lead guided walking tours (if desired by the Village)

These programs connect residents and visitors with the artworks and the artists behind them, making contemporary public art accessible and meaningful to broad audiences. Community programming will be led by Ellen Kullerstrand, Director of Marketing & Community Engagement, who designs programming that connects residents and visitors with the artworks and the artists behind them.

## VIII. Marketing, Communications, and Public Launch

# SCULPTURE

If desired by the Village, SM will collaborate with the Village on coordinated marketing and communications efforts, which may include press outreach, digital storytelling, social media promotion, and interpretive materials that provide context for the sculptures.

Public unveiling events will celebrate project completion and introduce the artworks as new civic landmarks that contribute to the vibrancy and cultural identity of downtown Downers Grove.

## Project Timeline

The project timeline is structured to ensure a thoughtful, efficient, and well-coordinated delivery of a high-quality public art initiative for the Village. Work is organized into five overlapping phases that move the project from concept development through installation, public activation, and ongoing stewardship.

**Phase 1: Artwork Selection & Design Development (June–July 2026)** focuses on site exploration, feasibility review, and curatorial planning. During this phase, SM will work with Village staff to evaluate potential locations, identify suitable artworks, establish budgets and schedules, and coordinate early planning with project partners.

**Phase 2: Site Finalization, Logistics & Engineering (August 2026–February 2027)** advances the project into technical planning and implementation readiness. Final artwork selections and site locations will be confirmed, engineering reviews will be completed, artist agreements finalized, fabrication vendors secured, and installation and maintenance documentation assembled. Insurance requirements will also be completed during this phase.

**Phase 3: Fabrication & Installation (February–May 2027)** includes installation scheduling, wayfinding design and production, and on-site installation of the artworks. Signage and interpretive materials will be installed concurrently, and professional photography will document the completed installations for public communications and archival purposes.

**Phase 4: Community Programming & Activation (August 2026–June 2027)** runs concurrently with project development to ensure strong public engagement. This phase includes advance planning and delivery of public programs associated with the installations, including artist talks, unveiling celebrations, and community activation events. Programming is timed to align with installation milestones and maximize public participation.

**Phase 5: Documentation & Maintenance (June–December 2027)** supports the long-term success of the installations through ongoing maintenance, condition monitoring, seasonal cleanings, and continued documentation and marketing photography.

This phased approach ensures the installation of one (1) sculpture in Linda Kunze Plaza and three (3) additional sculptures in other preferred project locations is delivered efficiently while maintaining flexibility to align with the Village's priorities, site readiness, and community engagement goals. A detailed project schedule is provided in the attached timeline document.

## Project Budget & Financial Overview

The proposed project budget reflects the full scope of services required to successfully deliver a high-quality public art initiative for the Village. The budget supports the installation of one signature

# SCULPTURE

sculpture in Linda Kunze Plaza and up to three additional sculptures in other preferred project locations, with final quantities and allocations aligned to the Village's priorities and site conditions.

Final project costs will be shaped by several key factors, including the Village's goals for community engagement, the scale and complexity of selected artworks, and whether sculptures are newly commissioned and fabricated or acquired as existing works. Larger-scale or newly fabricated works require expanded engineering, materials, and production coordination, while acquisition of existing works may reduce fabrication timelines but still require transportation, installation, and site preparation.

Budget categories include curatorial leadership, project management, artist design fees, fabrication or acquisition, engineering review, permitting, insurance, transportation, installation, and maintenance to ensure artworks are delivered safely, professionally, and in alignment with public space standards.

The budget also supports robust community engagement and cultural programming. Programming funds cover three artist talks, three public unveiling celebrations, and development and training of volunteer docents to support guided walking tours, should the Village wish to offer them. These activities ensure the artworks are not only installed but actively interpreted, celebrated, and integrated into community life.

Marketing, communications, and wayfinding investments ensure the installations are visible, accessible, and promoted as civic assets that contribute to the vibrancy of downtown.

A contingency allocation is included to responsibly manage variables common to public art projects, including site conditions, engineering requirements, and installation logistics.

Overall, the budget is structured to provide flexibility while ensuring the Village receives a cohesive, professionally managed public art program that delivers both immediate visual impact and long-term cultural value. The amounts budgeted in each Expense Category of the Project Budget have been provided as estimates only. SM and the Village shall agree upon a final allocation of funds into each Budget Category prior to the commencement of the project. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Project Budget shall not exceed four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) unless otherwise agreed to by the Village and SM in writing.

## Conclusion

Through thoughtful curation, experienced project management, strong community partnership, and a commitment to local economic impact, Sculpture Milwaukee will deliver a successful public art initiative that enhances the public realm and creates lasting cultural value for the Village of Downers Grove.

Our experience producing large-scale public art exhibitions demonstrates our ability to manage complex installations while ensuring artworks remain accessible, meaningful, and inspiring to the public.



**Downtown Public Sculpture Initiative**  
*Contact Information Document*

Proposal Contact

Name: Tasha Sorenson

Title: Director of Fund Development

Address: 735 N Water St., Ste 516, Milwaukee, WI 53202

Email: [tasha@sculpturemilwaukee.com](mailto:tasha@sculpturemilwaukee.com)

Phone: (414) 758-6078

Executive Director Contact

Name: John Riepenhoff

Title: Executive Director

Address: 735 N Water St., Ste 516, Milwaukee, WI 53202

Email: [john@sculpturemilwaukee.com](mailto:john@sculpturemilwaukee.com)

Phone: (414) 640-2595

# SCULPTURE

## Downtown Public Sculpture Initiative Sculpture Milwaukee References

Michelle Grabner  
Milwaukee exhibiting sculpture artist  
*(Actual Fractals, Act II)*  
Sculpture Milwaukee curator *(there is this We)*  
Milwaukee, WI  
Michellegrabner@gmail.com  
(708) 305-2657

Chris Kujawa  
President, Kujawa Enterprises Inc  
Milwaukee, WI  
Chris.kujawa@keiorange.com  
(414) 349-7411

John McKinnon  
Executive Director, Haggerty Museum  
Milwaukee, WI  
john.mckinnon@marquette.edu  
(414) 288-1669

Phoenix Brown  
Curator, Bronzeville Center for the Arts  
Milwaukee, WI  
  
(414) 307-4888

John Shannon  
CEO, Guardian Fine Art Services  
Milwaukee, WI  
jshannon@prime7.com  
(414) 252-0677

Sarah Braman  
Milwaukee exhibiting sculpture artist  
*(Actual Fractals, Act II)*  
New York, NY  
sarah@canadanewyork.com

David Uihlein  
Businessman and philanthropist  
Milwaukee, WI  
daveu@uihlein-wilson.com

Barry Mandel  
Mandel Group  
Milwaukee, WI  
bmandel@mandelgrop.com

Ruth Yasko  
Northwestern Mutual  
Milwaukee, WI  
ruthyasko@northwesternmutual.com  
(414) 665-4396

Erica Green  
COO, Milwaukee Downtown BID  
Milwaukee, WI  
egreen@milwaukeedowntown.com  
(414) 238-2245

## Sculpture Milwaukee Budget

### Downers Grove Public Art

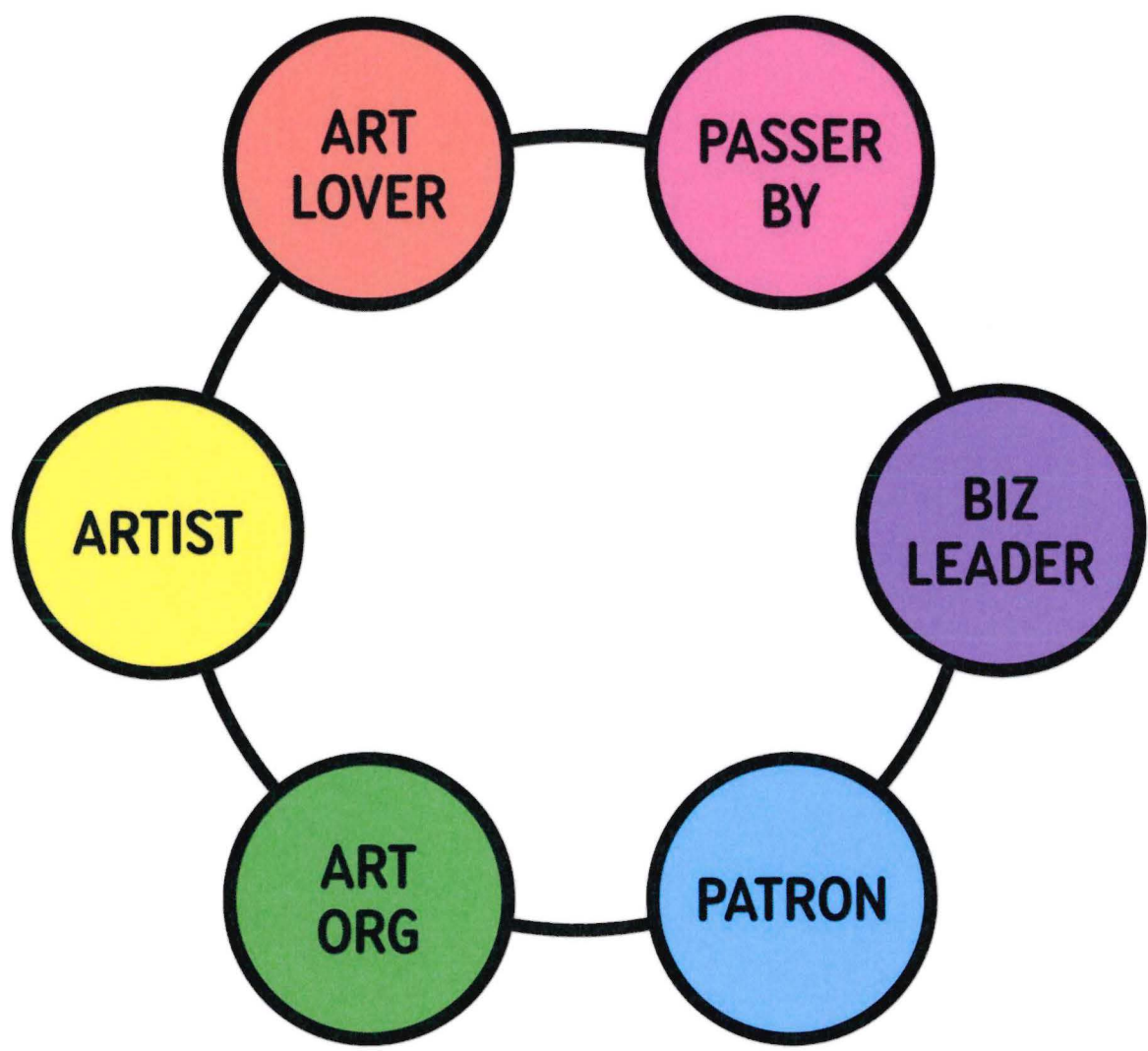
	<b>Kunze Plaza</b>	<b>3 Flexible Amenity Areas</b>	<b>Total</b>
Art Design, Fabrication, Engineering & Acquisition	\$135,000	\$111,000	\$246,000
Marketing, Programming, Engagement & Promotion	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$50,000
Travel, Insurance and Other Soft Costs	\$6,000	\$18,000	\$24,000
Consulting & Advising	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$60,000
Contingency	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$20,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$196,000</b>	<b>\$204,000</b>	<b>\$400,000</b>



## Downtown Public Sculpture Initiative Project Timeline

Phase	Task	Start Date	End Date
<b>Phase 1 — Artwork Selection &amp; Design Development</b>	Identify possible sites; site exploration and information gathering	6/1/2026	7/31/2026
	Select existing or already fabricated artworks for approval	6/1/2026	7/31/2026
	Identify budget, timeline, and fabrication lead time for new artworks	6/1/2026	7/31/2026
	Identify partners and initiate planning meetings	6/1/2026	7/31/2026
<b>Phase 2 — Site Identification, Logistics &amp; Engineering</b>	Finalize site locations and artworks	8/1/2026	9/30/2026
	Complete engineering review for installation	10/1/2026	11/30/2026
	Issue artist agreements and secure fabrication vendors	10/1/2026	11/30/2026
	Gather installation and maintenance documentation from artists	10/1/2026	11/30/2026
	Gather and submit insurance information for fine arts policy	1/1/2027	2/28/2027
<b>Phase 3 — Artwork Installation</b>	Secure installation schedule and apply for permits	2/1/2027	3/31/2027
	Wayfinding: object labels and maps finalized, designed, and sent to printer	2/1/2027	4/1/2027
	Artwork installations	5/15/2027	5/31/2027
	Install wayfinding signage and photography for marketing and website	5/15/2027	5/31/2027
<b>Phase 4 — Ongoing Activities: Programming &amp; Activation</b>	Plan programming events (artist talks, unveiling events, activation events)	8/1/2026	3/31/2027
	Artwork reveal events	6/1/2027	6/15/2027
<b>Phase 5 — Maintenance &amp; Documentation</b>	On-site photography for marketing and website	6/1/2027	6/15/2027
	Continued maintenance (weekly checks; monthly and seasonal cleanings)	6/1/2027	12/31/2027

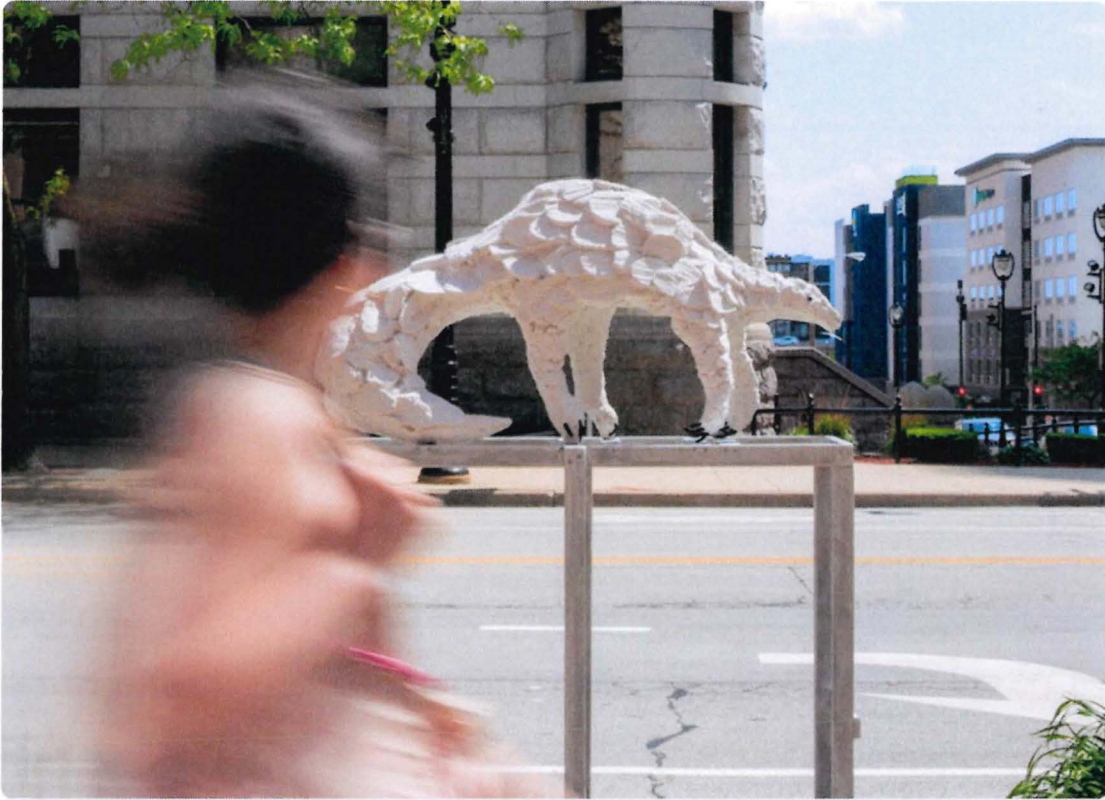




# Impact + Growth Report

2024

## SCULPTURE



Dear Supporter,

Sculpture Milwaukee's is a world class outdoor exhibition of renowned sculptures transforming downtown Milwaukee's cultural and architectural landscape. Our interactive programming format serves as a catalyst for supporting artists, making art accessible to a wide audience, and building connections between creative and influential figures in our community.

The past year and a half as Executive Director have demonstrated to me Sculpture Milwaukee's strengths and opportunities, and I'm more excited now than ever to usher our organization into its next phase of growth. This chapter will be defined by collaboration as we engineer more tools to support artists, reinforce the efforts of our institutional art peers in Milwaukee and the State, and grow our role as a resource for the private and public sector cultural investments.

I've also learned that Sculpture Milwaukee is only as strong as the individuals participating in and investing in our work, and we so appreciate your ongoing support of our program! This presentation is a look back at 2024's lessons and accomplishments, with an eye towards our goals for success in 2025 and beyond.

Sincerely,

John Riepenhoff, Executive Director

# OUR PRIORITIES

Since 2017, Sculpture Milwaukee has dramatically grown our presence in the region, making our organization a leader in the arts, and experts when it comes to activating public space. What we have innovated as a community is truly unique domestically, and recognized as a model internationally. Together, we are certain to make marked progress on our priorities for 2025 and beyond.

**1** Enrich Milwaukee’s downtown, center the arts as a local driver of commerce and quality of life.

**2** Collaborate and strategize with local and regional leaders to better understand and utilize public art.

**3** Center and celebrate Arts & Culture in our civic life, provide access to art for diverse audiences.

**4** Raise the bar for what is experienced and expected of public art through engaging programs, publications, and more.



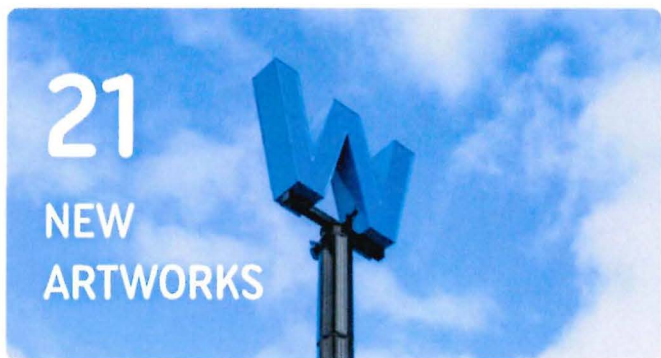
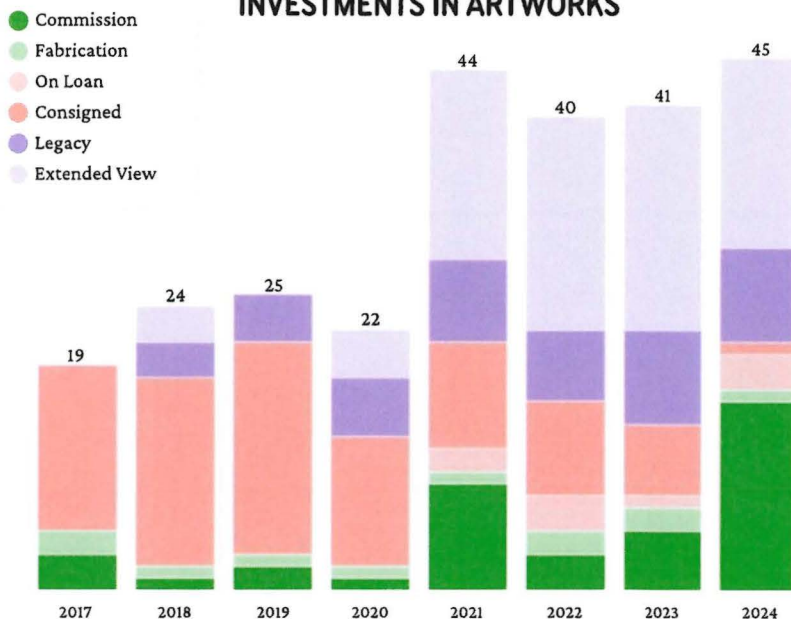
# SCULPTURE

## ON VIEW

This year was a record year for us as we commissioned over 80% of the new sculptures that were installed, +30% YOY. Many of them were fabricated using Wisconsin's skilled industries: metal workers, powder coaters, concrete and glass companies, from Fox Valley to Pewaukee and between. We also showed more pieces this year in public space in Milwaukee than any other year prior.



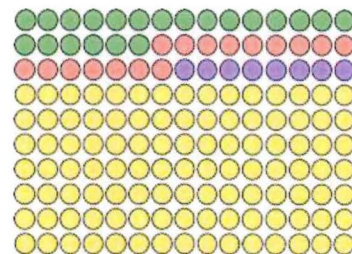
### INVESTMENTS IN ARTWORKS



2024 marked Sculpture Milwaukee's 7th annual exhibition season. We showcased 21 artworks in 2024, presenting a total of 45 pieces by local, national, and international artists across six neighborhoods.

### 150 TOTAL LIFETIME ARTWORKS

- New (green circle)
- Extended (red circle)
- Legacy (purple circle)
- Past Artworks (yellow circle)



# SCULPTURE

# LOCATIONS

March 2025

With an average of more than 1 piece of art per block downtown, Sculpture Milwaukee provides free access to world-class art for everyday Milwaukeeans and visitors alike. Each piece is accompanied by an object label with details about the work, the artist, and a QR code that brings the viewer to our website to learn more about the exhibition, listen to audio tours, revisit past exhibitions, and more.

### EXHIBITION LEGEND

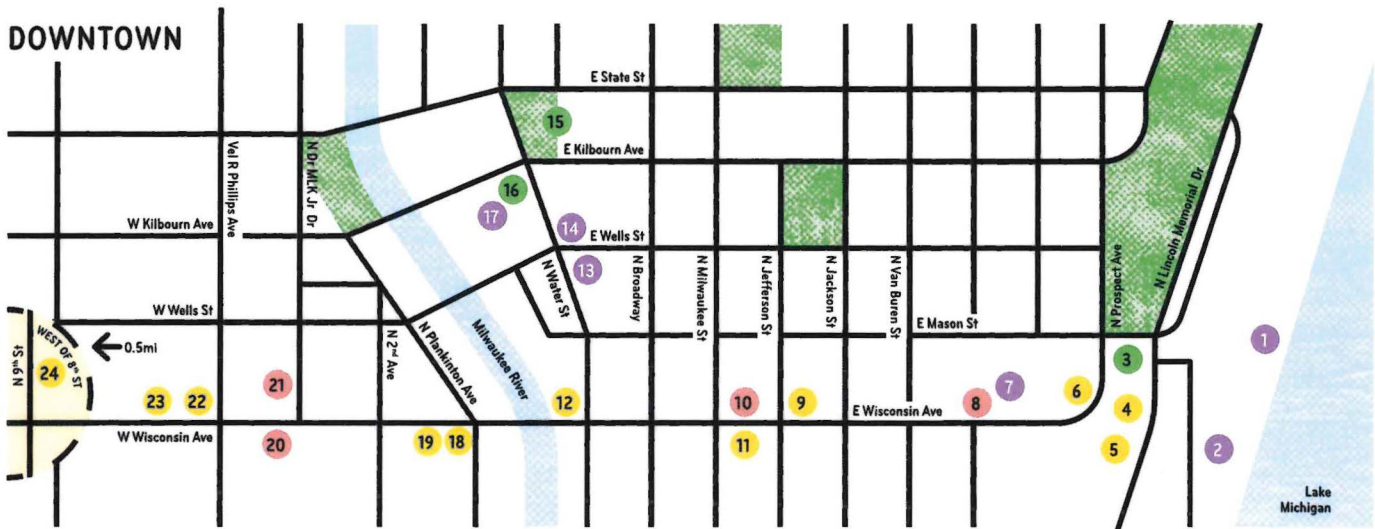
- *Actual Fractals, Act II*
- *Actual Fractals, Act I*
- *Nature Doesn't Know About Us*
- *Legacy Artworks*

### SCORE FOR ACTUAL FRACTALS

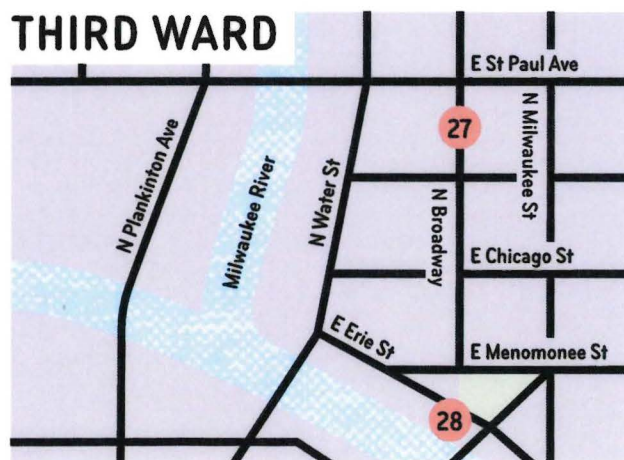
#### KIM MILLER

The sidewalk is a stage for us to move with and around with purpose. How can we (re) organize ourselves towards liberation? How can we navigate our personal and shared space in a way that is physically, emotionally, and socially freeing?

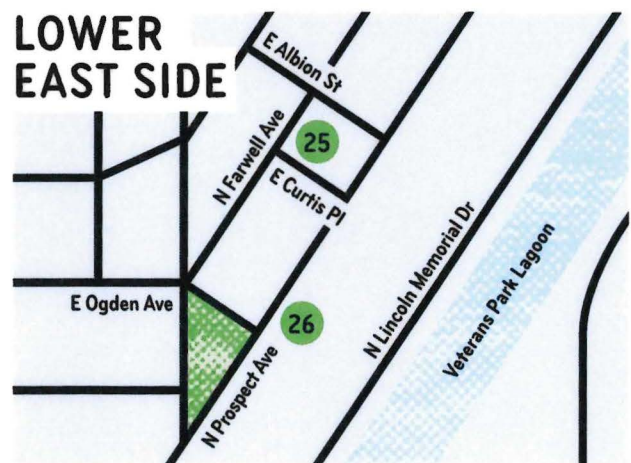
### DOWNTOWN



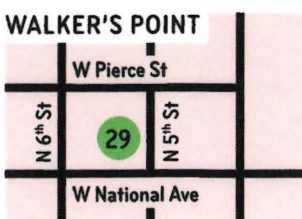
### THIRD WARD



### LOWER EAST SIDE



### WALKER'S POINT



### BRONZEVILLE

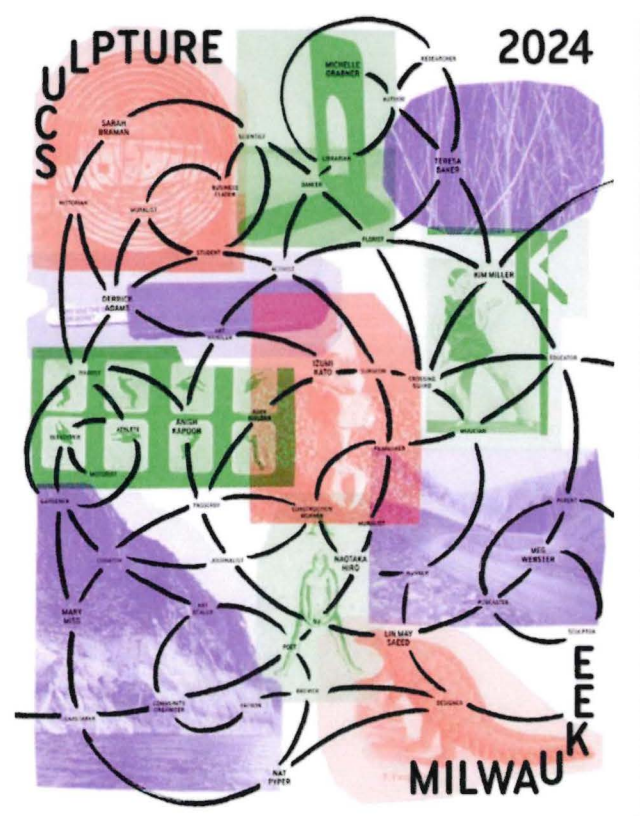
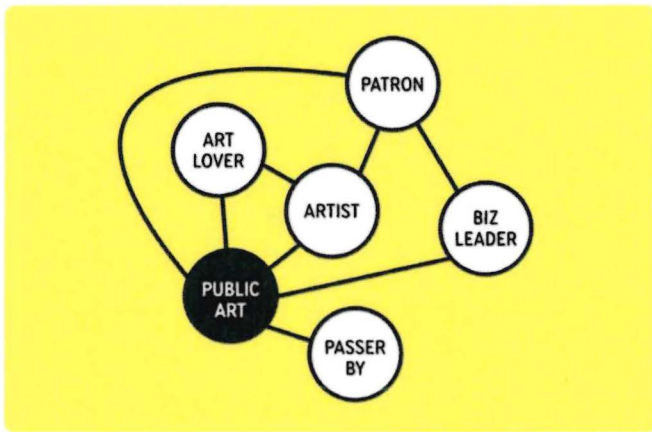
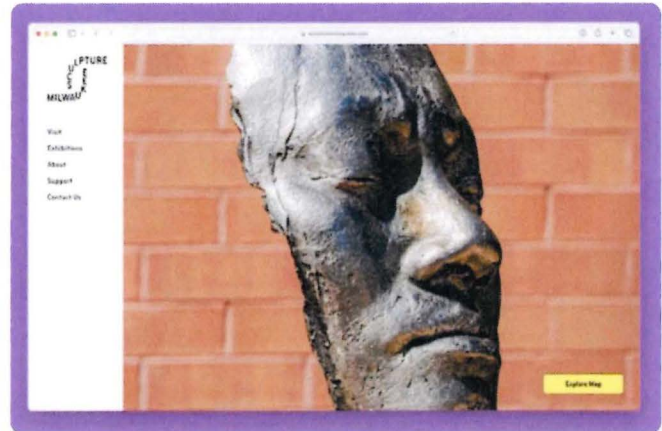


### HANK AARON STATE TRAIL



SCULPTURE

# NEW IN 2024



## VISUAL IDENTITY

In 2024 Sculpture Milwaukee's team collaboratively embarked on a project to update our brand identity. The design process was led by artist Nat Pyper, and the finalized branding was implemented in every aspect of our public presence by in-house Creative Director, artist Michael Lagerman.

Our fresh visual identity more effectively communicates our organization's narrative, and reflects our current stage of growth under new leadership and expanded staff. The openness of this identity will be instrumental as we continue to grow, strategize, and connect our communities with world-class contemporary art.



Occasionally the logo is joined by a heap of eyes. Illustrating the act of viewing, creative alertness, collective spectatorship, and the sculptural forms that viewers make when look at art together. This brand mascot can be used alone or in conjunction with the logomarks.

MILWAUKEE

SCULPTURE



## MARKETING + MERCHANDISE

Due to our branding overhaul completed in 2024, this year marked a significant growth in our earned marketing, merchandise production, distribution, collaborations, and sales.

We see the benefit of our merchandise, from organic marketing and brand recognition to the increased revenue opportunities, as an exciting starting point. We intend to continue to add products, including a coffee collaboration in the works for 2025.



MILWAUKEE

SCULPTURE

2020 – 2024

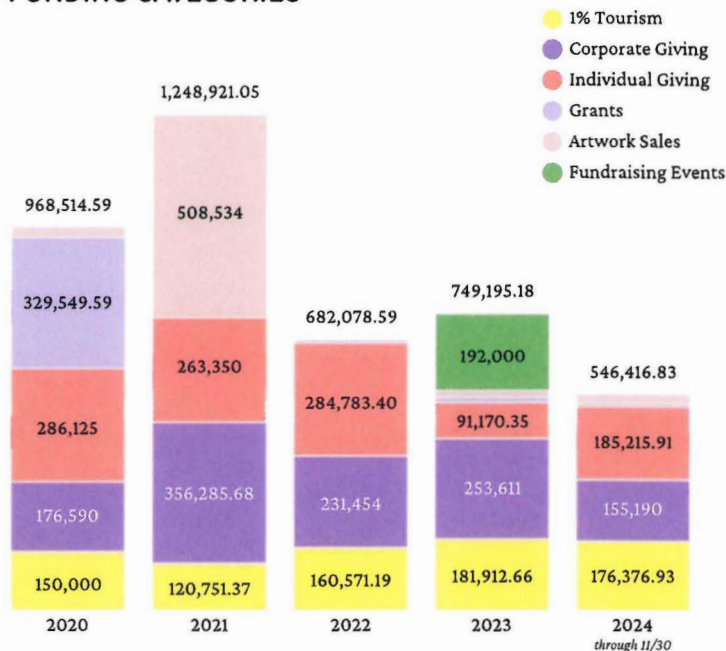
# INCOME SOURCES

2020 marked the first year Sculpture Milwaukee operated independent of the Downtown BID as an independent non-profit.

2023 and 2024 budgets relied heavily on three major funding sources.

2023 saw a new fundraising event format that proved highly successful.

## FUNDING CATEGORIES



2025

# FINANCIAL GOALS

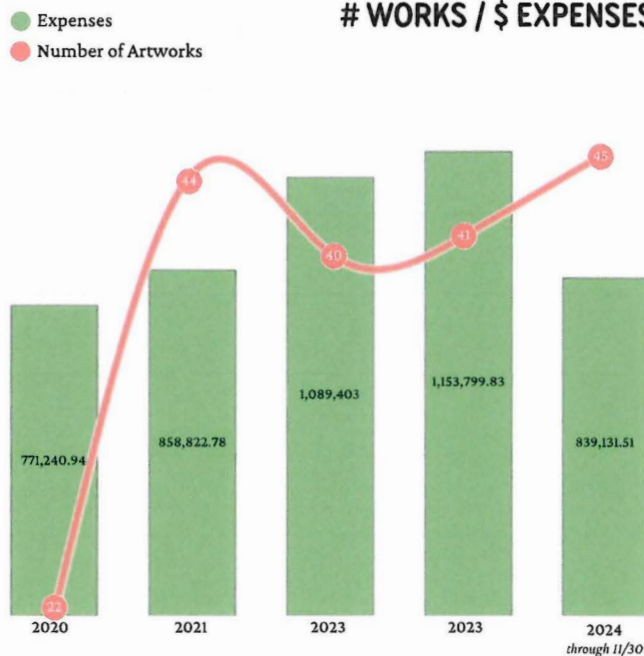
Diversify our major funding sources with a goal of no one source contributing more than 20% of annual income.

Replicate the success of the 2023 Green Gallery / Ugo Rondinone Fundraising event.

Grow grant revenue to \$300,000.

Evaluate sales income, grow potential for individual artwork sales.

## # WORKS / \$ EXPENSES



## SCULPTURE MILWAUKEE

# RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS

The makeup of our exhibition and programming has evolved under John Riepenhoff's leadership as Executive Director. We are proud to share that by shifting our priorities to commissioning and fabricating works in Wisconsin, Sculpture Milwaukee has been able to decrease our dependence on borrowing older works from out of state and the costly fees associated with the transportation of public sculpture. The logistical savings have enabled Sculpture Milwaukee to allocate more of our budget into local businesses and artists. This shift also has the benefit of positioning Wisconsin as a site of cultural production, attracting artworld prestige and investment from outside organizations.



# LONG TERM OPPORTUNITIES



In order to achieve our curatorial and community goals, we manage many relationships and stay attentive to short and long term opportunities. We have begun to plan our annual exhibitions further in advance, while simultaneously keeping an eye out for ad-hoc opportunities to collaborate with other regional institutions and artists.

We have also placed a growing number of our sculptures in permanent locations, where they will be accessible to the public at all times. For these Legacy works, Sculpture Milwaukee acts as a resource to connect and consult on maintenance and the genesis of new art public art installations, connecting our partners to new clients, continuing to provide education, and helping navigate the world of contemporary art with new patrons.

Sculpture Milwaukee continues to find ways to optimize the value of our investments, including making provisions for our public artworks to be on display for longer periods of time. The first several years of Sculpture Milwaukee exhibitions were installed for an average of six months. Today the typical amount of time a temporary piece will be on the street is eighteen months. In addition to lowering our total monthly costs, this change has made our show viewable 24/7, 365 days a year.



## JOIN US

John Riepenhoff  
Executive Director  
c. 414-640-2595  
john@sculpturemilwaukee.com

**SCULPTURE MILWAUKEE STANDS AT A PIVOTAL MOMENT OF GROWTH AND INNOVATION. WITH YOUR INVESTMENT, WE CAN EXPAND OUR REACH, DEEPEN OUR IMPACT, AND SOLIDIFY MILWAUKEE'S POSITION AS A WORLD-CLASS DESTINATION FOR PUBLIC ART.**

**Sculpture Milwaukee  
A Quick Glance at  
2025**



**Actual Fractals, Act III**

Works now on view

Erin Shirreff

*Dusk Form* at Museum Center Park

Anish Kapoor

*Moon Twist* at Marcus Performing Arts Center



**Actual Fractals, Act III**  
Works now on view

Roy Staab  
*Whirling Tennure* at Haggerty Museum of Art

Thomas J Price  
*Within the Folds (Dialogue I)* at Vel R. Phillips Plaza



## Actual Fractals, Act III

Works now on view

Felix Gonzalez-Torres  
*"Untitled" (The New Plan)*

1990

Billboard

Dimensions vary with installation

### (9) Installation sites:

#### Milwaukee

Haggerty Museum of Art

Walker's Point Center for the Arts

219 E Wisconsin Ave

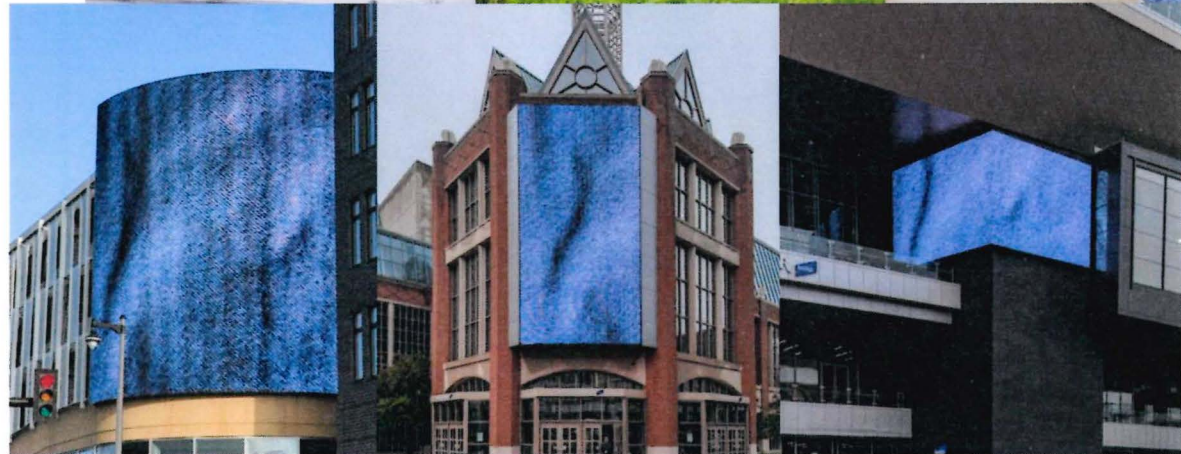
Fiserv Forum (x2)

Baird Center (x2)

#### Southeastern Wisconsin

The Poor Farm

New London, WI



Meg Webster  
*Glass Spiral, 1990/2024*



Current Exhibitions  
DIA Beacon  
Pinault Collection  
Sculpture Milwaukee

**Actual Fractals**  
**Benefit Exhibition**

Over \$200,000 raised



**Confirmed sales**

Lin May Saeed  
*Pangolin*



**Sales in the works**

Sarah Braman  
*Stay*

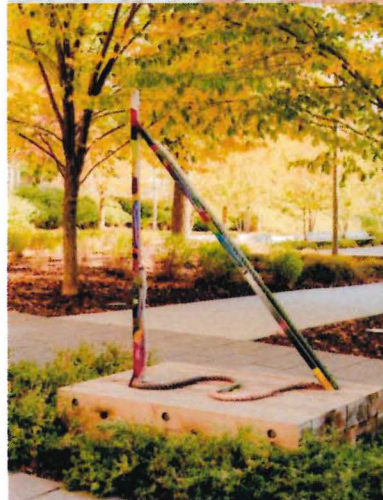
Oscar Tuazon  
*Recycled River*

Teresa Baker  
*Abundant*

Izumi Kato  
*Untitled*

Michelle Grabner  
*Untitled (Blue)*

Katy Cowan  
*suns fall*



**Extended View**

Pao Hao Her with John  
Michael Kohler Arts Center

3 Sheeps Brewing  
1837 North Ave.  
Sheboygan, WI



### Upcoming collaborations

Joel Otterson at Milwaukee  
Symphony Orchestra with  
Kohler Co.

Martine Syms at Bronzeville  
Center for the Arts

Izumi Kato with Untitled Art





**DOWNTOWN**

- 1 Robert Indiana  
*The American LOVE*
- 2 Betty Gold  
*Monumental Holistic III*
- 3 Meg Webster  
*Glass Spiral*
- 4 Izumi Kato  
*Untitled*
- 5 Michelle Grabner  
*Untitled (Yellow)*
- 6 Sarah Braman  
*Stay*
- 7 Roxy Paine,  
*Cleft from the series Dendroids*
- 8 Katy Cowan  
*suns fall*
- 9 Lin May Saeed  
*Pangolin*
- 10 Erika Verzutti  
*Venus Yogini*
- 11 Michelle Grabner  
*Untitled (Red)*
- 12 Pao Houa Her  
*Untitled*
- 13 Teresa Baker  
*Abundant*
- 14 Radcliffe Bailey  
*Penrive*
- 15 Tony Cragg  
*Mixed Feelings*
- 16 Lois Weinberger  
*Mobile Garden*
- 17 Oscar Tuazon  
*Recycled River*
- 18 Deborah Butterfield  
*Big Piney\**
- 19 Kim Miller  
*Social Choreography*
- 20 Nat Pyper  
*Does not language also follow the path of the river*
- 21 Truman Lowe  
*Canoe Man, Plains Image, Untitled\**

- 22 Pao Houa Her  
*Untitled*
  - 23 Isamu Noguchi  
*Octetra (two-element column)*
  - 24 Mary Miss  
*WaterMarks: An Atlas of Water for Milwaukee*
  - 25 Naotaka Hiro  
*A Hole in My Stomach*
  - 26 Michelle Grabner  
*Untitled (Blue)*
- LOWER EAST SIDE**
- 27 David Hammons  
*Toilet Tree*
  - 28 Arthur Simms  
*Real Estate for Birds?*
- THIRD WARD**
- 29 Isamu Noguchi  
*Octetra (five-element pyramid)*
  - 30 Paul Druecke  
*Shoreline Repast*
  - 31 Pao Houa Her  
*Untitled*

**WALKER'S POINT**

- 32 Tyree Guyton  
*TIMEOLOGY*
- BRONZEVILLE**
- 33 Sanford Biggers  
*BAM (Seated Warrior)\**

**HANK AARON STATE TRAIL**

- 34 Arlene Shechet  
*Tilted Channel from Full Steam Ahead*

**COMING SOON**

- Anish Kapoor  
*Moon Twist*

\* On view indoors

**DOWNTOWN**



**KIM MILLER, SCORE FOR ACTUAL FRACTALS**

The sidewalk is a stage for us to move with and around with purpose. How can we (re)organize ourselves towards liberation? How can we navigate our personal and shared space in a way that is physically, emotionally, and socially freeing?

Access more scores by scanning the QR code at each artwork information label. Come back often, new scores will be added throughout the exhibition.

Share your responses on social media with the hashtag #SocialChoreography

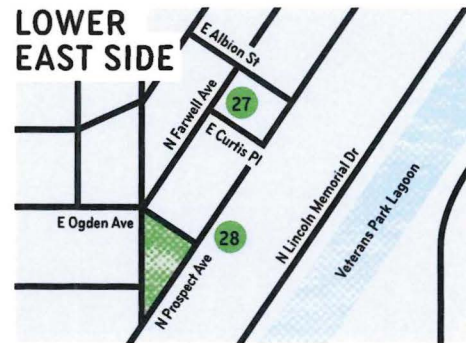
**EXHIBITION LEGEND**

- Actual Fractals, Act II
- Nature Doesn't Know About Us
- Actual Fractals, Act I
- Legacy Artworks

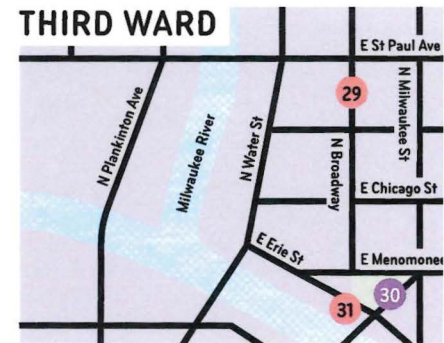


Scan to view digital map

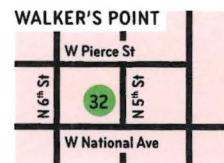
**LOWER EAST SIDE**



**THIRD WARD**



**WALKER'S POINT**



**BRONZEVILLE**



**HANK AARON STATE TRAIL**



**V. PROPOSAL/CONTRACT FORM**

**\*\*\*THIS PROPOSAL, WHEN ACCEPTED AND SIGNED BY AN AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY OF THE VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE, SHALL BECOME A CONTRACT BINDING UPON BOTH PARTIES.**

**Entire Block Must Be Completed When A Submitted Proposal Is To Be Considered For Award**

<b>PROPOSER:</b>	
Sculpture Milwaukee Company Name	Date: 3/13/2026
735 N Water St, Ste 516 Street Address of Company	tasha@sculpturemilwaukee.com Email Address
Milwaukee, WI 53202 City, State, Zip	Tasha Sorenson Contact Name (Print)
(414) 758-6078 Business Phone	(414) 758-6078 13-Hour Telephone
N/A Fax	<i>Wayne Morgan</i> Signature of Officer, Partner or Sole Proprietor
	Wayne Morgan, Chairman, Sculpture Milwaukee Print Name & Title
ATTEST: If a Corporation	
Signature of Corporation Secretary	

**VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Village Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

In compliance with the specifications, the above-signed offers and agrees, if this Proposal is accepted within 90 calendar days from the date of opening, to furnish any or all of the services upon which prices are quoted, at the price set opposite each item, delivered at the designated point within the time specified above.

**PROPOSER'S CERTIFICATION (page 1 of 3)**

With regard to Downtown Public Sculpture Initiative, Proposer Sculpture Milwaukee hereby certifies  
(Name of Project) (Name of Proposer)  
the following:

1. Proposer is not barred from bidding this Contract as a result of violations of Section 720 ILCS 5/33E-3 (Bid Rigging) or 720 ILCS 5/33E-4 (Bid-Rotating);
2. Proposer certifies that it has a written sexual harassment policy in place and is in full compliance with 775 ILCS 5/2-105(A)(4);
3. Proposer certifies that it is in full compliance with the Federal Highway Administrative Rules on Controlled Substances and Alcohol Use and Testing, 49 C. F.R. Parts 40 and 382 and that all employee drivers are currently participating in a drug and alcohol testing program pursuant to the Rules.
4. Proposer further certifies that it is not delinquent in the payment of any tax administered by the Department of Revenue, or that Proposer is contesting its liability for the tax delinquency or the amount of a tax delinquency in accordance with the procedures established by the appropriate Revenue Act. Proposer further certifies that if it owes any tax payment(s) to the Department of Revenue, Proposer has entered into an agreement with the Department of Revenue for the payment of all such taxes that are due, and Proposer is in compliance with the agreement.

BY: [Signature]  
Proposer's Authorized Agent Signature

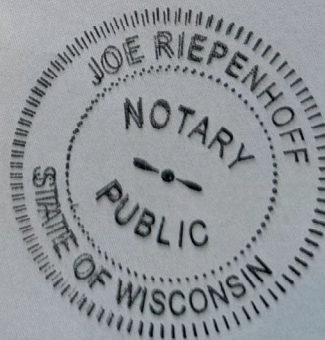
8 3 - 3 9 8 2 3 7 7

**FEDERAL TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER**

or \_\_\_\_\_  
Social Security Number

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
this 9 day of April, 2026

[Signature] permanent  
Notary Public



**PROPOSER'S CERTIFICATION (page 2 of 3)**

(Fill Out Applicable Paragraph Below)

**(a) Corporation**

The Proposer is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Wisconsin, which operates under the Legal name of Sculpture Milwaukee, and the full names of its Officers are as follows:

President: Wayne Morgan

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer: \_\_\_\_\_

and it does have a corporate seal. (In the event that this Proposal is executed by other than the President, attach hereto a certified copy of that section of Corporate ByLaws or other authorization by the Corporation which permits the person to execute the offer for the corporation.)

**(b) Limited Liability Company (LLC)**

The Bidder is a LLC organized and existing under the laws of the State of Wisconsin, which operates under the legal name of Sculpture Milwaukee, and the full names of its managers or members are as follows:

Manager or Member: Sculpture Milwaukee, Inc

Manager or Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Manager or Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Manager or Member: \_\_\_\_\_

**(c) Partnership**

Names and Addresses of All Members of Partnership:

Guardian Fine Art Services, 1635 W St Paul Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53233

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The partnership does business under the legal name of: Guardian Fine Art Services  
which name is registered with the office of Guardian Fine Art Services in the State of Wisconsin.

**PROPOSER'S CERTIFICATION (page 3 of 3)****(d) Sole Proprietor**

The Proposer is a Sole Proprietor whose full name is: Sculpture Milwaukee  
 and if operating under a trade name, said trade name is: Sculpture Milwaukee  
 which name is registered with the office of Sculpture Milwaukee in the State of  
Wisconsin.

5. Are you willing to comply with the Village's preceding insurance requirements within 10 days of the award of the contract? YES NO (circle one)

Insurer's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Agent \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

**I/We affirm that the above certifications are true and accurate and that I/we have read and understand them.**

Print Name of Company: Sculpture Milwaukee

Print Name and Title of Authorizing Signature: Tasha Sorenson, Director of Fund Development

Signature: Tasha Sorenson

Date: 3/13/2026

## Suspension or Debarment Certificate

Non-Federal entities are prohibited from contracting with or making sub-awards under covered transactions to parties that are suspended or debarred or whose principals are suspended or debarred. Covered transactions include procurement for goods or services equal to or in excess of \$25,000.00. Contractors receiving individual awards for \$25,000.00 or more and all sub-recipients must certify that the organization and its principals are not suspended or debarred.

By submitting this offer and signing this certificate, the Proposer certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that the company and its principals:

1. Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any federal, state or local governmental entity, department or agency;
2. Have not within a three-year period preceding this Proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction, or convicted of or had a civil judgment against them for a violation of Federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
3. Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (2) of this certification; and
4. Have not within a three-year period preceding this application/proposal/contract had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.

**If the Proposer is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, Proposer shall attach an explanation to this certification.**

Company Name: Sculpture Milwaukee

Address: 735 N Water St, Ste 516

City: Milwaukee Zip Code: 53202

Telephone: ( 414 ) 758-6078 Fax Number: ( )

E-mail Address: tasha@sculpturemilwaukee.com

Authorized Company Signature: Tasha Sorenson

(Print)Name: Tasha Sorenson Title of Official: Director of Fund Development

Date: 3/13/2026

**Campaign Disclosure Certificate**

Any contractor, proposer, bidder or vendor who responds by submitting a bid or proposal to the Village of Downers Grove shall be required to submit with its bid submission, an executed Campaign Disclosure Certificate.

The Campaign Disclosure Certificate is required pursuant to the Village of Downers Grove Council Policy on Ethical Standards and is applicable to those campaign contributions made to any member of the Village Council.

Said Campaign Disclosure Certificate requires any individual or entity bidding to disclose campaign contributions, as defined in Section 9-1.4 of the Election Code (10 ILCS 5/9-1.4), made to current members of the Village Council within the five (5) year period preceding the date of the bid or proposal release.

By signing the bid or proposal documents, contractor/proposer/bidder/vendor agrees to refrain from making any campaign contributions as defined in Section 9-1.4 of the Election Code (10 ILCS 5/9-1.4) to any Village Council member and any challengers seeking to serve as a member of the Downers Grove Village Council.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Under penalty of perjury, I declare:

Proposer/vendor has not contributed to any elected Village position within the last five (5) years.

Tasha Sorenson  
Signature

Tasha Sorenson  
Print Name

Proposer/vendor has contributed a campaign contribution to a current member of the Village Council within the last five (5) years.

Print the following information:

Name of Contributor: \_\_\_\_\_  
(company or individual)

To whom contribution was made: \_\_\_\_\_

Year contribution made: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name