Moses Cone Hospital Project

The Public Art Endowment (PAE) and Cone Health are commissioning an iconic piece of art that will go in a large circular area between the Cone Health Heart & Vascular Center and the Women’s & Children’s Center at Moses Cone Hospital. The budget is $300,000 for the project with $75,000 from PAE and $225,000 to be raised by Cone Health Philanthropy.

The two entities are looking for an artist to create a work that is site-specific, thought-provoking, hope-filled, and visually engaging. It must connect with visitors and patients. In recent years, Cone Health has put emphasis on placing works of art in its buildings, and the PAE has been changing Greensboro’s public landscape with art projects since 2008.

In September 2022, artist Cliff Garten was selected to create a signature sculpture on the campus of Moses Cone Hospital. Garten is founder of Cliff Garten Studio in Venice, California. With a Master of Fine Arts in Sculpture from Rhode Island School of Design and a Master of Landscape Architecture with Distinction from the Harvard Graduate School of Design.
A collaboration between the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro’s Public Art Endowment (PAE) and the Greensboro Science Center was created for the facilitation of the fabrication and installation of a work of a public art to be displayed on the outside of the GSC facility located on Lawndale Drive in Greensboro, NC. This site will be accessible and free to all who come into the park area. This art project will focus on transforming the entry plaza of the GSC’s newly renovated entrance as a special place to gather and interact with science and art at the same time! Along with $75,000 and $30,000 in inkind services from the PAE, the project now has a budget of $275,000 due to $170,000 in gracious gifts from our patrons. The PAE selected Maryland artist, David Hess, in January 2020 to design and create the new sculpture which was installed in February 2022.

From the Artist: “Our perception of time and space is continually changing. As a species, Humans have always been motivated by our sense of wonder. Using the paradigms of Art and Science we navigate the great mysteries of our existence. With the most powerful electron microscopes, we study infinitesimally small particles called Quarks (.000000000000000000043 centimeters). Space telescopes enable us to observe vast Galaxies 13,400,000,000 light-years from Earth (a light-year is 5,879,625,370,000 miles). These tools give us perspective on our place in the universe, between the Microcosm and the Macrocosm. Similarly, our study of Science, enables us to imagine the immense duration of billions of years of Geologic Time and the fleeting nature of a nano-second. We reside somewhere on this time continuum, between the permanent and the ephemeral. Places like the Greensboro Science Center remind us that we are here at this moment, at this place, only once.”

Hess Video Hyperlink: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KwGxUnpbDE0

Installation: https://www.dropbox.com/s/qnve5bbn6kbunv1/Sculpture%20Installation%20FINAL%20h264.mp4?dl=0

2018

Fall by Andy Dunnill
Fall by the late Andy Dunnill, an art professor at UNCG, was a gift from Jane and Richard Levy to the PAE who in turn gave it to the City of Greensboro in 2018. The piece was created in 1997 and has been shown in Chicago at the Navy Pier Exhibition and also at Socrates Park in NYC. It is a quintessential work of the artist, showing bold, imposing forms with figurative overtones.

2017

Da Dans by Carl Powel

A new stained glass installation on the exterior of the Van Dyke Performance Space located at the Greensboro Cultural Center at 200 N. Davie in Greensboro, the piece is entitled “De Dans” and was a joint project of the Public Art Endowment, an initiative of the Community Foundation of Greater
Greensboro, and the City of Greensboro. Installed in October 2017, the windows are illuminated at dusk every night.

The work was created by Asheville artist Carl Powell. The name is a nod to the Dutch heritage of the building’s namesake Jan Van Dyke, and the building’s design as a dance venue. Powell was inspired by both the facility’s purpose and its surroundings.

“I tried to convey the joy of dance and my interpretation of movement and color that will hopefully relate to the space and to the wonderful park that is outside,” he said.

2016

Where We Met by Janet Echelman

The 2016 installation and lighting of the Echelman sculpture, commissioned to honor the area’s rich textile history, was the highlight of the LeBauer Park opening ceremony week. The first permanent, commissioned artwork by The Public Art Endowment at The Community Foundation, Where We Met was supported by the LeBauer bequest and a $1-million grant from The Edward M. Armfield, Sr. Foundation, established by and named for the late textile industrialist.

The largest public art installation in the southeast, Where We Met is an undulating, colorful net hung high above the park’s Great Lawn from four mammoth pylons positioned around the perimeter. The connecting shape from which the net is draped mirrors an 1896 map of N.C. railroad tracks connecting many of the state’s major textile hubs at the time.
About the Sculpture Where We Met

- Where We Met is the first permanent, commissioned artwork by The Public Art Endowment, an initiative of The Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro
- Support for the sculpture came from a generous $1-million grant from The Edward M. Armfield, Sr. Foundation
- The sculpture honors the textile industry, textile workers and their families
- The Public Art Endowment managed the process through which Janet Echelman ultimately was chosen, as well as the project overall, from design to fabrication to installation.

Janet Echelman is an internationally acclaimed artist who lives outside Boston, Mass. She has been recognized by Smithsonian magazine with its American Ingenuity Award in Visual Arts, Architectural Digest as an AD Innovator, Public Art Network in its Year In Review, the Knight Foundation, the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation and others, and her artwork is listed among Oprah Winfrey’s “50 Things That Make You Say Wow!”

Works by Echelman have been installed (permanently or temporarily) in such diverse locales as Amsterdam; Sydney, Australia; Vancouver; the headquarters of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in Seattle; Porto, Portugal; Phoenix, Ariz.; Madrid; and Houston, Texas.

The Greensboro sculpture is an enormous, multi-colored net that is hung from 4 massive pylons around the perimeter of LeBauer Park’s Great Lawn

The form from which the is suspended in the center is in the shape of mapped 1896 railway lines throughout North Carolina, connecting Greensboro with many of the state’s textile hubs at the time (image this page)

The resulting sculpture is a leaf-like image that will float and billow over the Great Lawn and be dramatically lighted at night

In the winter, the net will be lowered and stored to avoid any problems from ice formation, both to the public below and the material itself. The sculpture will be lifted back into place each spring

The colored portions of the sculpture are designed to gently billow in the wind, while the top structural net above holds firm to the exterior supports.

More information about Echelman and her work can be found at echelman.com

Structural Net

- 2,800 feet of rope = 0.53 mile
- 81 hand-spliced rope connections
- Made of a double-braid rope with an ultra-high molecular weight polyethylene (UHMWPE - Spectra) and a polyester cover braid. The fibers are more than 15 times stronger than steel by weight
- Plan area of the structural net is 3,500 square feet
**Sculptural Net**
- Spans 200 feet x 130 feet
- 185,291 feet of twine = over 35 miles of twine (35.09)
- 3,000 square feet of twine
- 242,800 knots

**Total Sculpture**
- 188,091 feet of twine = over 35.62 miles of twine
- Pylons are 30 inches in diameter and up to 60 feet tall
- There are hoists built into each pylon that allow the net to raise and lower and are accessed via a porthole on the side of the pylons.
- There is a swiveling block (pulley) on top of the pylons that lets the angle of the cable change when the net moves in the wind.
- Sculpture exerts 12,000 lbs. (6 tons) of force at the top of each pylon under design wind loading.

https://youtu.be/hOmfJ9EShkk

**2022 Update on Where We Met:**

We are excited to announce that Greensboro’s iconic aerial sculpture is back and better than ever! Where We Met by Janet Echelman has returned to LeBauer Park with a vibrant new color scheme. This is the first of a three-part development of the artwork coming over the next 15 to 20 years and representative of the process of change in our community!
Peacehaven Sensory Space by Carrie Gault and Cynthia Frank
As children explore the space, they can run their fingers over a variety of textures, see bright colors and distinct designs, and listen to their voices echo through holes in the wall. Completed in 2016, this sculpture was completed through special gifts and leadership of Peacehaven Community Farm. Artists worked closely with the community to create a space that is accessible to children of all abilities.

For more information, please read this news article about the space.

2015

*Rise Together Greensboro by Charlie Brouwer*

Over 300 participants from throughout the community provided more than 500 ladders to create a sculpture symbolizing community building. Our temporary sculpture project by Virginia artist Charlie Brouwer served as the featured kickoff of the 2015 17DAYS Festival and the local debut of the National Folk Festival.
O’Henry Suite/Maria J. Kirby-Smith

This is a three-piece, bronze statue set honoring the late author O’Henry and is currently placed at the corner of North Elm and Bellemeade Streets. Gifted to the PAE by Real Property, it includes the following: an open book of the short stories, “The Gift of the Magi" and “The Ransom of Red Chief"; O’Henry’s dog, Lovey; and O’Henry himself.
Tagtool/OMAi Sessions by Markus Dorninger

The Greensboro Sessions by Markus Dorninger of Vienna, Austria, marked the U.S. debut of this dynamic public art experience – a unique, interactive light show in which participants helped create projected images on the sides of buildings, among other activities. This fun light display visited Greensboro in 2014.

2013

Three Liner by Evan Lewis

Three Liner by Evan Lewis made its debut within the median of Green Valley Road near the Proximity Hotel in 2013 and at the entrance to the Cone Health’s Wesley Long Campus in 2016.

Saw Dog by Vollis Simpson

Saw Dog by Vollis Simpson was temporarily installed on the grounds of the Cone Health Cancer Center as part of a partnership between The Public Art Endowment and Cone Health to provide more art to patients there in 2013.
2012

*Tre Venezia and Cassata* by Peter Shire

*Tre Venezia* by Peter Shire, along with its companion piece, *Cassata*, was installed on the grounds of the Greensboro Cultural Center on Davie Street in 2012 and remained there for 3 years.

2011

*Standing Vase with Five Flowers* by James Surls

*Standing Vase with Five Flowers* by James Surls graced the median along Green Valley Road in 2011. It now permanently resides in New Orleans LA.
Entrance to a Garden by Dennis Oppenheim

Entrance to a Garden by Dennis Oppenheim was unveiled on the front lawn of the VF/Wrangler building downtown in 2010. It has now found a permanent home at the Storm King Art Center in New York. Dennis was a native of Washington State. He received his B.F.A. from the School of Arts and Crafts, and an M.F.A. from Stanford University. He has received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Guardian II by Billy Lee

Guardian II by internationally renowned artist Billy Lee of Greensboro sits on the grounds of the Old Guilford County Courthouse. The Endowment’s first permanent installation, this sculpture was a generous gift by Jane and Richard Levy and the employees of their company, HBD, Inc. The Guardian was installed in 2009.