

Statement from a Juror

I would like to congratulate Washburn University and the Campus Beautification Committee for their continued commitment to sponsoring the Annual Washburn University Sculpture Exhibition. This year marks the 21st year that artists have had the opportunity to enter a juried exhibition and to participate in a creative process that is exciting and rewarding, and one that helps them to grow as artists. It also gives visitors an opportunity to enjoy outdoor sculpture at its best on Washburn's two beautiful campuses.

In choosing the sculptures for this exhibit I first considered whether the images of the pieces submitted were presented in a way that enhances the sculptures and eliminates any visual confusion between the piece and its background. In viewing the images, thoughtful presentations helped me to understand the creative approach of the artist in his or her design of the piece, technical executions, coherence of forms, and quality of surface treatments. I looked for the artist's ability to experiment to create a sculpture that is engaging and speaks to the viewer. The works chosen for this exhibit went beyond the norm and offered a variety of creative approaches.

Congratulations to the artists who are part of this year's outdoor sculpture exhibition! It was a pleasure reviewing the images, and I look forward to seeing the selected sculptures on campus.

Carol Emert

Retired Curator of Collections and Exhibitions
Mulvane Art Museum, Washburn University



For more information on campus
art and sculptures, contact us:
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1700 SW College Ave.
Topeka, KS 66621

WASHBURN UNIVERSITY



21st Annual Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition

Welcome to the 21st Annual Washburn University Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition

Started in 1996, the outdoor sculpture exhibition demonstrates Washburn's commitment to art and to enhancing the university's aesthetic. New sculptures are selected yearly in a juried competition sponsored by the Campus Beautification Committee. These sculptures are created by artists from Kansas, around the country, and abroad.

In addition to the five sculptures on the Washburn campus, two works are featured at the Washburn Institute of Technology campus. This provides new opportunities to enhance the natural beauty of the settings.

CAMPUS BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

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Rugena Hall

Dust Up Erik Maakestad Morrilton, Ark.

Erik Maakestad is a Professor of Art at Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas. He teaches sculpture and ceramics. He lives on Petit Jean Mountain near Conway. Maakestad was born in Iowa City, IA and raised in rural Minnesota. His degrees are from Central Washington University and the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.



"Dust Up is one of a series of works that began as small wax casts of random shop tools. The casts were assembled as small, abstract gestural sculptures and cast in bronze or aluminum. Enlarged in welded steel, they take on associations with the graffiti on freight trains or with dancing people."

**This sculpture is located near the main entrance at the
Washburn Institute of Technology
5724 SW Huntoon St, Topeka, KS 66604.**

1

A City with a View
F. Maria Velasco
Lawrence, Kan.

María Velasco is a Spanish-born artist who has been living and working in the US since the 1990s. Her work is interdisciplinary, contextual, and often collaborative. She has exhibited nationally and internationally in private museums and other contemporary art venues.

“A City With A View is an impersonation of the iconic scenic viewer that populates tourist sites all over America and around the globe. Alluring curious passersby, this viewer delivers miniature people skateboarding, jumping, playing ball, sleeping, etc. while greeting viewers amidst familiar Kansas City locations. These “urban fairies” – as I like to call them – invite “The Child Within” to fantasize about the many rascally behaviors that intersect with our very mundane routines before one even realizes it!”



2

Double Header
Andrew Libertone
Denver, Colo.

Andrew Libertone was born and raised in New York City. From a young age, he responded to the city’s energy. As a teenager, he would make trips to the city to hear jazz and admire architectural wonders. His work is influenced by these auditory and visual patterns.”

“My steel pieces are mostly human scale and rely heavily on geometric forms and art deco influences. Architecture and design, cut outs, shadows, and supporting linear elements orchestrate to form a whole.”

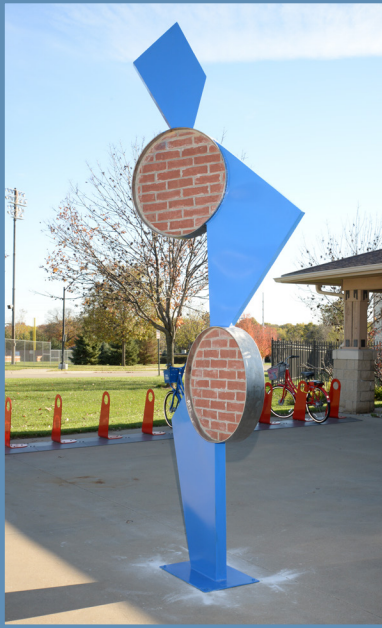


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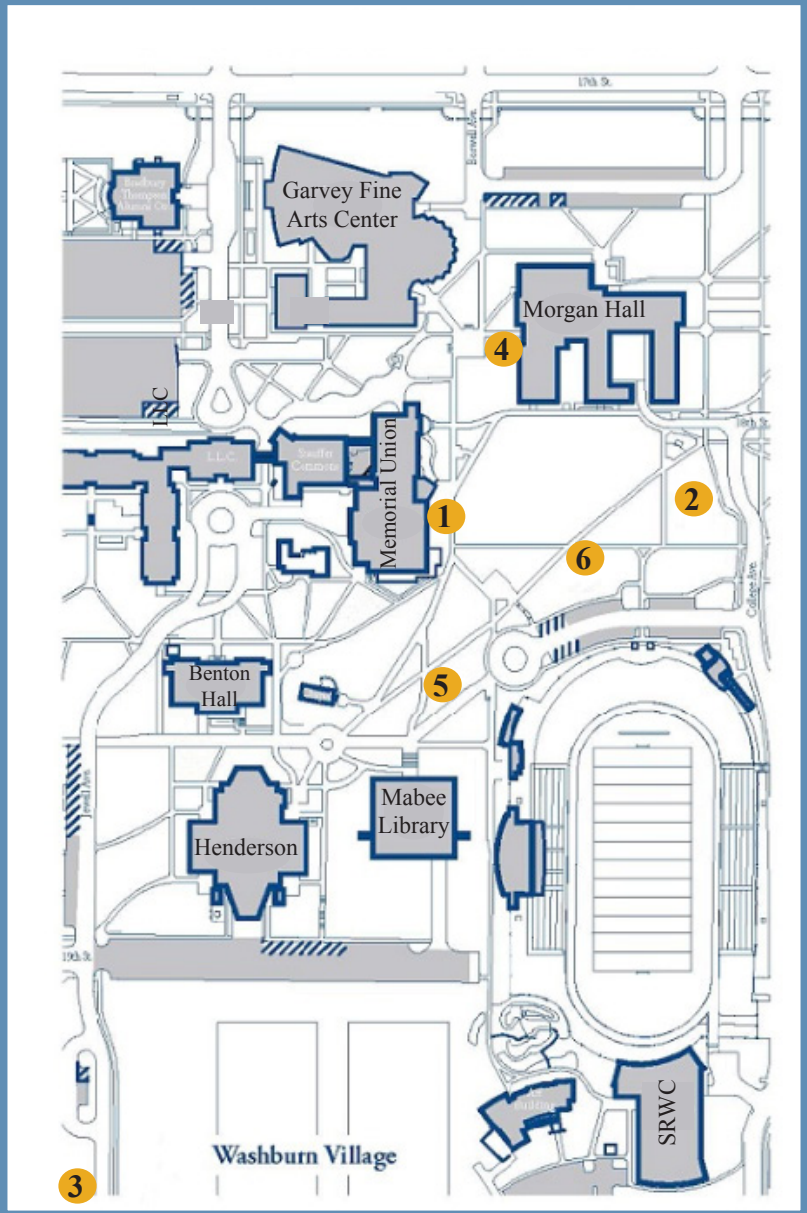
growing up
Ben Pierce
Cape Girardeau, Mo.

Ben Pierce’s work is a reflection of an internal search to discover who he is and how he fits into the world. He attempts this utilizing geometric design and shapes. How do you communicate a feeling or memory? This is a question he tries to answer visually.

“I have used brick as an element, expressing my family heritage. I am the son of a third generation stone mason. Using skills that I developed in various trades (including working beside my father) and refined while pursuing my BFA degree, I want to proudly display this part of my family heritage. The use of brick is more than a design element.”



Washburn University
Walking Tour Map



4

Stream Chit Chat
Won Choi
Philadelphia, Pa.

Won Choi’s sculptures have been exhibited in solo and group exhibitions in museums and galleries throughout the United States and abroad, including the James A. Michener Art Museum in Doylestown, PA. Her works are in public collections at Widener University in Wilmington, DE and Park Towne Place in Philadelphia, PA.

“Stream Chit Chat portrays the sound of streams as they travel through the rocks and pebbles in the mountain. The title brings the memory of my birthplace in South Korea where the streams flew making such a loud sound. If we wanted to talk to one another, we had to shout.”

5

LaGrange Point
V. Skip Willits
Camanche, Iowa

Lagrange Point is a stainless steel object consisting of four pod like objects, each having three sides rising up to a high point. Between everything there is a halfway point, a place in the middle to meet and find common ground.

“The sculptures I make come from my experiences.”



6

E.P.I.S.B.
Samuel Balbuena
Lawrence, Kan.



Samuel Balbuena is a first-generation Mexican-American artist living and working in Lawrence, KS. He was born in California in 1992 shortly after his parents immigrated to the United States. His love and curiosity for traditional materials have fueled his cravings for a full body and mind creative process to his work. Balbuena is currently a BFA candidate at the University of Kansas. He has shown his works within the university and the city of Lawrence.

“Made through wood, plastic, repurposed steel, and aluminum, E.P.I.S.B. aims to present a futuristic object that mimics the appearance of a seedpod with a distress call. I began with a basic octagon and expanded this mandala-like framework outward. Inside the seed a wooden octagon suspends. This pod reflects back towards the viewer through a pyramidal shaped mirror, to help magnify the space in the hollow capsule and mirror the person’s own self. From afar, it is seen as a lone seedpod that seeks help and nurture, but as one gets close it is really only the self of the viewer that is enveloped and contained in this rooted shell.”