

ITEM #: 14  
DATE: 03-14-23  
DEPT: Admin

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: 2023/24 AMES ANNUAL OUTDOOR SCULPTURE EXHIBITION**

**BACKGROUND:**

The Ames Annual Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition (AAOSE), the longest running program for the Public Arts Commission (PAC), will celebrate its 27<sup>th</sup> annual downtown exhibition in 2023. Through this program, artists submit sculptural entries to be displayed in Downtown Ames from May 2023 through April 2024. At the conclusion of the display, sculptures are available for purchase by private individuals or by PAC through the Neighborhood Sculpture Program. This year, 33 AAOSE entries were received from 16 artists.

The entries were evaluated by a jury of Ames residents who then made their recommendations to PAC. **The jurors selected eight sculptures to be displayed.** They also identified four alternates in case selected sculpture(s) would become unavailable. PAC approved the recommendations and alternates at the regular meeting on March 7, 2023.

Attached are photographs and descriptions of the sculptures recommended for the 2023-24 AAOSE. Installation of the exhibit will take place in April after consultation with businesses near the proposed sites and further risk analysis by City staff.

Artists will be paid a \$2,000 honorarium for each selected sculpture, and a Best-in-Show award of \$1,000 will be made to a winner determined by the public, for a total expenditure of \$17,000. Funding for the AAOSE exhibition was included in the 2022-23 City Budget for the Public Art Commission.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. a. Approve agreements with the artists as recommended by PAC for the exhibition.
- b. Authorize entering into agreements, if necessary, for any or all of the recommended alternative sculpture selections.
- c. Authorize the payment of honoraria to each artist exhibiting a sculpture in the amount of \$2,000 per sculpture displayed.
2. Do not approve the agreements.

**CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

This annual program allows for works of art to be displayed throughout the Downtown. This program aligns with the City Council's value of a fun, vibrant community that attracts and retains people. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 a-c as described above.

# 2023-2024 AAOSE SELECTIONS

Ames Public Art Commission

1

Will Vannerson, "Ecstatic Crepitacean"

2



Dimensions: 105"x55"x55" Weight: 275 lbs Cost:\$10,000 Year: 2017

2

Ryan Pedersen, "Fluid Connections"

3



Dimensions: 96"x48"x24" Weight: Unspecified Cost: \$18,500 Year: 2021

3

Nathan Pierce, "Lil Blue"

4



Dimensions: 5'x4'x4' Weight: 100 lbs Cost: \$7,000 Year: 2016

4

Craig Snyder, "Cube Farmer"

5



Dimensions: 8'x5'x3' Weight: 350 lbs Cost: \$8,200 Year: 2020

5

Gail Chavenelle, "Generations"

6



Dimensions: 8'x36"x36" Weight: 300 lbs Cost: \$8,000 Year: 2019

6

Hilde DeBruyne, "Shifting Gear"

7



Dimensions: 9'x9'x3' Weight: 600 lbs Cost: \$22,000 Year: 2019

7

Nathan Pierce, "Everything"

8



Dimensions: 10'x3'x3' Weight: 200 lbs Cost: \$12,000 Year: 2015

8



Dimensions: 57"x28"x34" Weight: 125 lbs Cost: \$7,000 Year: 2022

# 2023-2024 AAOSE ALTERNATES

Ames Public Art Commission

Ryan Pedersen, "Transformation"\*  
\*Only if "Fluid Connections" by Ryan Pedersen is unavailable

11



Dimensions: 72"x36"x32" Weight: Unspecified Cost: \$12,500 Year: 2022

11

Will Vannerson, "Subterranean Figure"\*  
\*Only if "Ecstatic Crepitacean" by Will Vannerson is unavailable

12



Dimensions: 80"x45"x30" Weight: 150 lbs Cost: \$12,000 Year: 2020

12



Dimensions: 96"x45"x45" Weight: 110 lbs Cost: \$10,000 Year: 2020



Dimensions: 4'x3'x14' Weight: 285 lbs Cost: \$5,800 Year: 2022