



THE SCULPTURE CENTER

www.sculpturecenter.org

2002 WINTER NEWSLETTER # 34 2003

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The Sculpture Center is dedicated to enhancing our community's appreciation of sculpture by fostering the careers of emerging sculptors and promoting the preservation of outdoor sculpture.

Lend a Hand to Sculpture

Sculpture is the most visible art form in a community. Sculpture that is new and thrilling, sculpture that is restored to its original artistic impact, tells the world that we are a vibrant community that engages creativity. Entrepreneurs, businesses, and visitors are attracted to areas that embrace their artists as well as their cultural heritage. Regional, community and neighborhood development has been a direct result of investment in the arts.

The Sculpture Center was created to safeguard outdoor sculpture and foster the careers of emerging sculptors. Now in our second decade, The Sculpture Center can boast that we have completed a comprehensive survey of outdoor sculpture in Ohio, created a web-accessible database to document the survey and have conserved and maintained more than 24 significant outdoor sculptures in Northeast Ohio. The Sculpture Center has lent a hand to more than 90 emerging sculptors by providing them with the opportunity to exhibit, develop an artistic statement, and produce professional quality marketing materials to promote their career.

Your gift to The Sculpture Center lends a hand to existing sculpture. Sometimes literally! This year, in addition to ongoing maintenance and conservation projects, *Our Lady of Liberty and Peace* in Kirtland Park on Cleveland's lakefront will get two new hands. Volunteers work with professional conservators to save outdoor sculpture throughout Ohio from the abuses of time and neglect.

Your gift lends a hand to emerging sculptors. A show in the *Window to Sculpture* series is often an Ohio artist's first solo exhibition. It is an unparalleled experience for an artist to have the opportunity to fill a gallery space and make a bold artistic statement for the public.

Please take a moment to look at the exciting new ways we have to thank you for your support. To show our appreciation for your continued support, you will continue to receive The Sculpture Center quarterly newsletter. If you are able to make a gift of \$100, we look forward to inviting you to private gallery opening receptions this year. If you can support The Sculpture Center at the \$250 level, you will receive a one-year subscription to Sculpture magazine, a publication of the International Sculpture Center. If you increase your support to \$500 or more per year, we are pleased to be able to offer a discount on sculpture purchased at Window to Sculpture exhibitions.

The Sculpture Center could not exist without the support of our community; conservationists, preservationists, artists and patrons alike.

Please continue to
lend a hand to sculpture.
Make a gift to
The Sculpture Center
today.



Questions and Answers

At the opening reception for the College Invitational, 80 of those in attendance completed a survey to help The Sculpture Center staff and board better understand how the organization is perceived, who attends and why.

New Visitors Are Always Welcome

Twenty-four percent of those attending the opening were visiting for the first time! All first time visitors indicated that they would like to return to The Sculpture Center. Although the sculptors in this show were students, it was surprising that only one third of the new visitors were students!

To Sell or Not To Sell?

It was interesting to note that only 66% of those surveyed knew that artists are welcome to sell what they exhibit. Of those who were aware of sales opportunities, 28% thought that The Sculpture Center takes a commission. It has been a policy of The Sculpture Center since its inception to never take a commission. In an effort to increase artists' sales, and offer a benefit to significant donors, The Sculpture Center is asking future exhibitors to offer a discounted price to donors. However, even with this discount, The Sculpture Center still realizes no commission. Sculptors may take heart to hear that 33% in attendance indicated that they have purchased sculpture in the past and 15% want to purchase sculpture sometime in the future.

Whose Art is Whose?

While 62% knew that The Sculpture Center exhibits the work of emerging sculptors, a surprising 33% mistakenly thought The Sculpture Center exhibits the work of Founder and Chairman Emeritus David Davis. Although David's studio is a part of The Davis Art Foundation Campus, his work has yet to be a featured exhibit at The Sculpture Center.

An Artsy Crowd

Visitors were asked to describe themselves by checking all boxes that they thought applied to them. There were 31 people who identified themselves as sculptors, 29 people who indicated they were students, and 23 educators. Artists from 11 other art forms were also present. Thirty-five individuals described themselves as art lovers and 29 were either friends of the exhibiting artists or friends of The Sculpture Center.


Our thanks to all art lovers, artists, old and new friends who completed the survey.

- Lisa Winstel


Brian Roberts WTS Artist 2002
flow (foreground) feeder (background)



Helping Hands to Save Outdoor Sculpture



Within the Cleveland metropolitan area, an impressive portfolio of over eighty outdoor sculptures can be found. Ironically, this outdoor museum is one of the city's most accessible art collections and yet, is often the most ignored. A majority of these works are in danger because of their constant exposure to a variety of natural and man-made threats. Conservation and maintenance efforts are crucial, not only for their cultural and historical value, but also for economic reasons. If left unattended, the rate of decay of outdoor monuments increases exponentially over time, resulting in a dramatic increase in the cost of treatment, as well as the significant and irreversible loss of surface details and sculptural materials. However, once the deterioration process is arrested, it is equally important to assume a responsible stewardship approach, which includes a cycle of treatment and routine maintenance.




The Sculpture Center began its conservation efforts in 1996, the year of Cleveland's bicentennial, with the restoration of *General Moses Cleaveland* and *Tom L. Johnson*, two bronze statues located in Public Square. In 1997, we helped conserve five other local monuments, and the following year, three more outdoor works were treated. Since 1999, our conservation program has focused on thirteen sculptures that have made their home from 1899-1929 in the Fine Arts Garden, a five-acre area south of the Cleveland Museum of Art. The project continued with renewed zeal this year as conservator, Tom Podnar with McKay Lodge Fine Arts Conservation Laboratory in Oberlin, completed work on *Fountain of Waters*, *Twelve Signs of the Zodiac*, and the *Tadeusz Kosciuszko* monument. He is currently restoring a pair of bronze historic lampposts, scheduled to be reinstalled in the Garden this spring.

In addition, conservation work by Lothar Jobczyk, a local sculptor and stonecarver, began in August on the granite monument, *Our Lady of Liberty and Peace*, located in Kirtland Park. A rededication ceremony for the statue is planned for spring 2003.

Every year beginning in May, we round up a crew of volunteers to rescue the statues from their plight of dirt, graffiti, guano, and spider webs. The maintenance process involves assessing and documenting the condition of the works, as well as washing, waxing, and buffing them. The city's Department of Parks, Recreation, and Properties has supported our efforts with the use of water trucks at the sites.

I would like to sincerely thank our exceptional maintenance crew, which included three local sculptors: George Roby, Richard Parsons and Ryan Anderson; two art history students from CWRU, Michael Morford and Claire Kovacs; and a Center staff member, Matthias Minnig. Almost every Wednesday this summer, we diligently maintained a conserved sculpture - fourteen in all - and managed to have a great time doing it.



One of the highlights was working on Claes Oldenburg's *Free Stamp* located in Willard Park. BP America donated this sculpture to the city in 1991 with a pledge to provide for its maintenance for twenty-five years. Jane Tesso, one of our Conservation Committee members, helped coordinate the Center's involvement, and we will perform yearly maintenance on this important landmark. Rising to a height of twenty-eight feet, cleaning it proved to be a challenge, but it was well worth the effort. The *Free Stamp* and other outdoor sculptures, are a blend of art and history that everyone can enjoy. When well-maintained, they help create a healthy, vibrant sense of community. Through the Center's Conservation Program, the preservation of Greater Cleveland's public monuments is assured, and I am honored to play a part toward that goal.

- Katherine Ukmar

THE SCULPTURE CENTER

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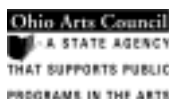
David E. Davis

1920 - 2002

The next issue of this
 newsletter will be
 dedicated to David.

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Please let us know
 if you would like to receive
 information about shows and events
 via email.
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 or call 216 229 6527

We are pleased to offer the following benefits to thank you for your support of The Sculpture Center.

	\$25	\$50	\$100	\$250	\$500+
- Receive <i>The Sculpture Center</i> Quarterly Newsletter	*	*	*	*	*
- Appear in the Contributors' Listing in <i>The Sculpture Center</i> Newsletter		*	*	*	*
- Receive Invitations to Private Gallery Receptions			*	*	*
- One Year Subscription to <i>Sculpture</i> Magazine, a publication of the International Sculpture Center				*	*
- Discount on Sculpture Purchased at Window to Sculpture Exhibitions					*