

Public Art Advisory Committee Meeting

December 16, 2025

12:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, 305 SW A Street

Contact skerr@bentonvillear.com to request participation via Zoom.

THE CITY OF BENTONVILLE



PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Members

- 1 Elizabeth Miller
- 2 Allan Paulose
- 3 Sara Asplund
- 4 Kate Schaffer
- 5 Anne Jackson, Vice Chairperson
- 6 Clint Schaff
- 7 Tom Hoehn

Ex Officio

- Beckie Seba, City Council
Kalene Griffith, Visit Bentonville
Alison Nation, Visit Bentonville
Cynthia Post Hunt, Crystal Bridges/The Momentary
Melisa Durkee, OZ Art

Staff

- Shelli Kerr, Comprehensive Planning Manager
Josh Stacey, Deputy Director of Parks

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes * – November 25, 2025
3. Service Recognition – Kate Schaffer
4. 2026 Budget *

PROPOSALS - None

OLD BUSINESS – None

4. 2026 Project Ideas
 - a. 2026 Action Plan recommendation based on budget *
 - b. Location Prioritization *

NEW BUSINESS - None

PROJECT UPDATES

5. Public Art Improvement Package
6. *Upper Cut* Removal
7. Proposals
 - Community Center Painting
 - Old Tree Sculpture
8. Installations
 - Sewer Main – *Fish of Bentonville*
 - J and John DeShields Roundabout
 - *Thaden School Urban Studies Library Mural*
 - *Trout Crosswalk Mural*

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

*Attachment

Public Art Advisory Committee Meeting

November 25, 2025

12:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, 305 SW A Street

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MINUTES

<u>Member</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Ex Officio</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
1 Elizabeth Miller	Virtual	Beckie Seba, City Council	In person
2 Allan Paulose	In person	Kalene Griffith, Visit Bentonville	Absent
3 Sarah Asplund	In person	Alison Nation, Visit Bentonville	Absent
4 Kate Schaffer	In person	Cynthia Post Hunt, Crystal Bridges/The Momentary	Absent
5 Anne Jackson, Vice Chairperson	In person	Melisa Durkee, OZ Art	In person
6 Clint Schaff	In person		
7 Tom Hoehn	In person	<u>Staff</u>	
		Shelli Kerr, Comprehensive Planning Manager	In person
		Josh Stacey, Deputy Director of Parks	In person

1. **Call to Order** - Anne Jackson called the meeting to order at 12:01 pm.

2. Approval of Minutes

Tom made a motion to approve October 28, 2025, minutes. Clint seconded. All in favor, motion passed 7-0.

3. **2026 Meeting Times.** To better accommodate schedules, the committee voted to adjust the meeting day and time.

Allan made a motion to move the meeting to the 3rd Thursday of the month at 4:00 pm. Tom seconded. All in favor, motion passed 7-0.

PROPOSALS - None

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

4. **Upper Cut – Maintenance.** Shelli and Josh shared that the art piece, *Upper Cut*, is quickly deteriorating. The committee determined that the cost to repair or completely replace is prohibitive and should be removed since it is becoming a safety hazard. Parks crews will be able to remove at minimal cost. The committee would like to issue an RFP to replace the artwork with another piece that reflects the sport of cricket. They also suggested that a sign be installed after removal, explaining that the PAAB will be working to install new artwork in its place, providing links to the RFP. This should also be shared on social.

Tom made a motion to remove Upper Cut for safety purposes. Clint seconded. All in favor, motion passed 7-0.

5. **Bentonville Bat Promotions.** The Bentonville Bat will likely be installed in late December. The committee felt it best to wait until opening day of baseball season to conduct an unveiling event.

6. 2026 Project Ideas.

- 250th Mural – 250 bricks to create one image, made by local artists.
- Gateway Park, but that is probably best to wait until 2027.
- Water Tower Road Roundabout

The committee agreed to send location ideas to Shelli to collect and prioritize at the next meeting. Shelli and Josh will also identify possible locations.

PROJECT UPDATES

7. **Public Art Improvement Package.** This item is going to city council tonight. Elizabeth mentioned that there may be a few people to speak on the item.
8. **Proposals.** The Community Center Painting and *Old Tree Sculpture* will be brought through council once the policy has been approved.
9. **Installations**
 - *Sewer Main – Fish of Bentonville.* The committee asked if we can reach out to the artist to see if we can assist in helping her complete the piece.
 - *J and John DeShields Roundabout.* The engineers should be submitting the documents for the right of way permit shortly. The artist is working on a small-scale mockup of the colors.
 - *Thaden School Urban Studies Library Mural.* No activity.
 - *Trout Crosswalk Mural.* No activity.

OTHER BUSINESS

- *Monarch and Dandelion* repairs completed. Will be doing a social post to announce.
- Since the artist for PAC-Man has rescinded his association with the piece, his name needs to come off the sign and the website.
- Parks is talking with OzArt about artwork in the new Adult Activity Center.

ADJOURNMENT

Allan made a motion to adjourn. Tom seconded. All in favor, motion passed 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 1:06 pm.

2026 Budget

Approved by City Council 11/25/2025

Item	Amount
RECURRING	
Public Art Archive Software Annual Subscription	\$ 2,500
Insurance on existing artwork	\$ 5,000
Subtotal	\$ 7,500
MAINTENANCE & CONSERVATION	
Maintenance & Conservation	\$ 50,000
Subtotal	\$ 50,000
PROJECTS	
Annual PAAC allocation	\$ 20,000
Roundabout Installations	\$ 50,000
Rollover for John De Shields Roundabout	\$ 50,000
Subtotal	\$ 120,000
TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 177,500

2026 PAAB Action Plan

Proposed

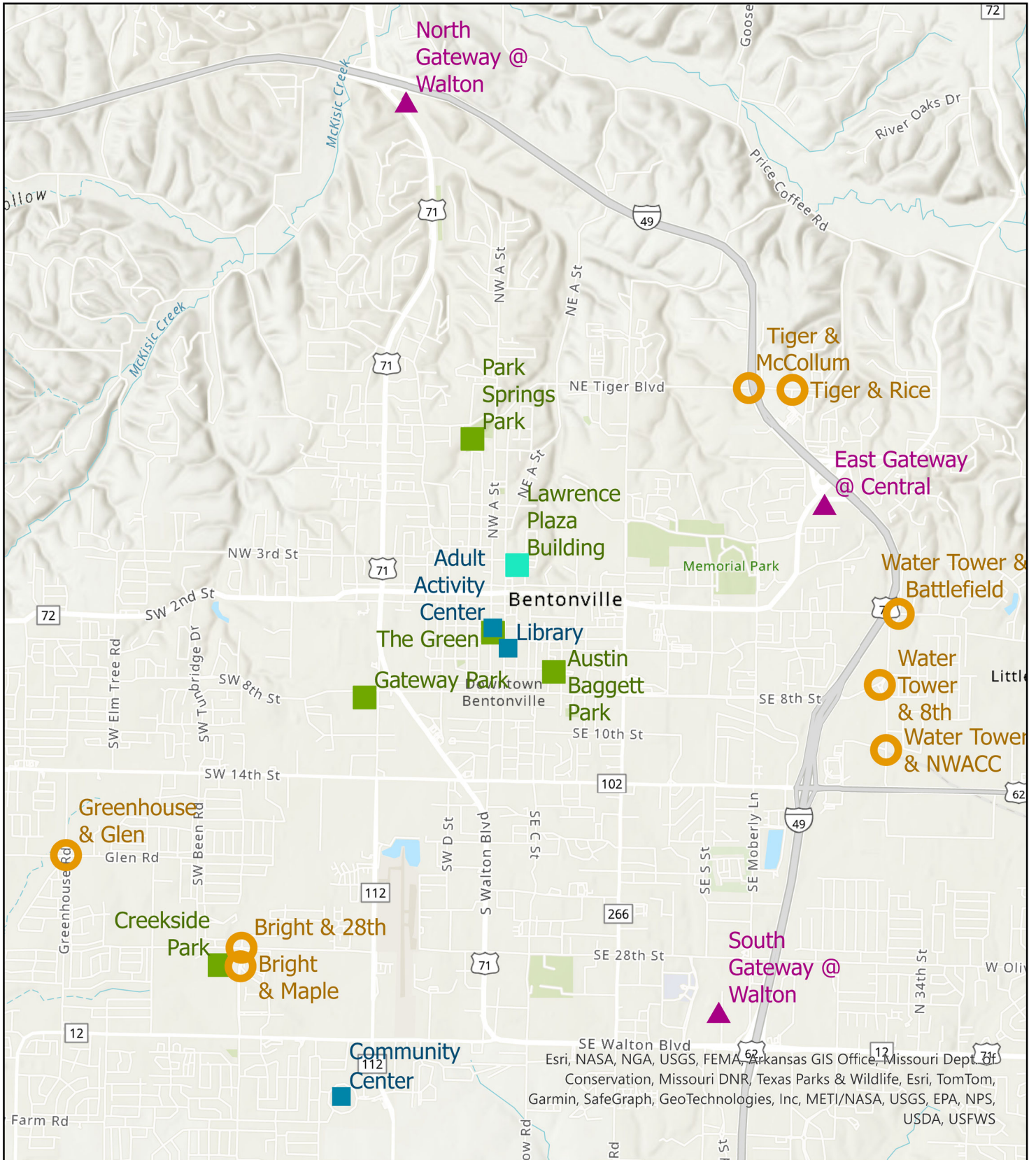
ID	Title	Action	Budget
MAINTENANCE & CONSERVATION			\$50,000
1	General Services	Issue an RFQ to conduct conservation and maintenance.	
2	Bike Tower Conservation	Work with Tyler French for quote to repair the bike towers.	
3	Mural Repainting/Removal	Determine future of murals rated poor and fair in condition assessment. Reach out to	
PROJECTS			\$120,000
4	Replace Upper Cut	Issue RFP for new artwork. Recommend seeking additional funding.	\$20,000
5	Roundabout Installation	Recommend Water Tower Rd location.	\$50,000
6	John De Shields Roundabout	Complete partnership with Crystal Bridges.	\$50,000

Public Art Installation Locations

Dec-25

ID	Location	Description
F <u>Facilities</u>		
F1	Community Center	Makes sense after the success of the mushroom art piece.
F2	Adult Activity Center	Interior and/or exterior by the pickle ball courts.
F3	Library	Once OZ Art NWA loan term is up.
G <u>Gateways</u>		
G1	North Gateway	at N Walton
G2	East Gateway	at E Central
G3	South Gateway	at S Walton
P <u>Parks</u>		
P1	Creekside Park	<i>Upper Cut</i> replacement.
P2	Austin-Baggett Park	Something to tie-in with the Momentary.
P3	Park Springs Park	Search and discover opportunity (like the giant trolls).
P4	Gateway Park	West of 8th and I.
P5	The Green	The area between the Adult Activity Center and City Hall.
P6	Lawrence Plaza	Blank wall on back side of brick building
R <u>Roundabouts</u>		
R1	Bright & 28th	
R2	Bright & Maple	
R3	Greenhouse & Glen	
R4	Tiger & McCollum	
R5	Tiger & Rice	
R6	Water Tower & 8th	If funding is secured to support scale.
R7	Water Tower & Battlefield	
R8	Water Tower & NWACC	

Locations for Art Installations (2026)



- Parks
- Facilities
- ▲ Gateways
- Roundabouts

SE Walton Blvd
 Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA, Arkansas GIS Office, Missouri Dept. of Conservation, Missouri DNR, Texas Parks & Wildlife, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA, USFWS

Request for Proposals for Permanently Displayed Artwork: Cricket Grounds



Request	The City of Bentonville’s Public Art Advisory Committee is seeking proposals for permanent artwork to be installed adjacent to the state’s first regulation-size cricket pitch.
Project Name	Cricket Grounds
Deadline	Wednesday, July 6, 2022 before Midnight Central Time

Creative Brief

Objective	Enrich and energize this new public space with an original work that becomes a landmark and physical recognition of the establishment of cricket in the area.
Insights	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cricket is played by millions and enjoyed by billions all over the world. Northwest Arkansas has over fifty cricket teams with more than 1,000 athletes. While it isn’t a traditional sport for this region, Bentonville isn’t a traditional city.• Every year, Northwest Arkansas welcomes new residents from all over the world. Bentonville places a high value on outdoor activity and works to provide facilities for all forms of recreation.• Cities become more than just municipalities when its people connect in new shared experiences. Sports are one way – just like food – to connect in a memorable way even across traditions and cultures.
Creative Prompt	What will grab the attention of every visitor to the new park? What about the work will have special meaning to those with whom the game is an old or new pastime?

Considerations

Site	The new, 25-acre <u>Creekside Park</u> is currently being built and is adjacent to an elementary school, a Hindu temple and two apartment complexes. Little Osage Creek runs through the park.
Artist(s) Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Any artist, architect, designer, or team is encouraged to submit.• Background in, experience with, and/or interest in cricket is preferred.• Those without extensive experience or capabilities in fabrication are encouraged to submit a proposal. If requested, the Committee will work to make agreeable connections for cost estimation, fabrication, delivery and installation.
Artwork Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Artwork proposed for outdoor installation must be suited to continuous outdoor display and able to be maintained by the City.• Artwork cannot contain logos, tag lines or be in any way thematically linked to a commercial business, establishment, product or service.
Project Cost	The Committee has earmarked \$10,000 to \$30,000 for this project but is seeking reasonable proposals regardless of cost. For requested proposals, the creative concept is key. The Committee understands changes in fabrication methods and material costs can vary dramatically and can be further discussed after selection.

Process

Contact	<p>Shelli Kerr, AICP Comprehensive Planning Manager, City of Bentonville</p> <p>305 SW A Street, Bentonville, AR 72712</p> <p>479-271-3122 skerr@bentonvillear.com</p>
Submission	<p>Proposals must meet the Artwork Guidelines (above) and the Public Art Policy (Attachment A on page 4).</p> <p>All proposals must be submitted before the deadline Wednesday, July 6, 2022 before midnight Central time using the online application form at http://www.bentonvillear.com/FormCenter/Planning-8/Public-Art-Proposal-70. Only those proposals submitted through the online application form with all requirement documentation uploaded will be accepted.</p>

Submission Requirements	For All Proposals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • title and description of the work • proposed medium or materials • proposed dimensions • rendering of proposed artwork • proposed fee for artistic development • (optional) request for expert connections for estimation, fabrication, delivery, and/or installation
	For Proposals that Include Fabrication:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • detailed cost estimate including materials, fabrication, delivery and installation. • requirements for foundation • requirements for access to water or electricity • fabrication time, life expectancy, and any special maintenance needs
Selection	<p>Selection and funding are contingent upon a signed Letter of Agreement between the artist(s) and the City of Bentonville. Before a contract agreement, detailed cost estimates will be required and will be evaluated.</p>	
Installation & Maintenance	<p>After an agreement is signed, the City will coordinate with the artist(s) on timing and any assistance needed by the city. Upon acceptance by the city after installation, the city will assume maintenance responsibilities. Details on maintenance requirements for the artwork must be provided by the artist(s) involved in the project.</p>	
Payment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment is dispersed as follows: 50% upon a signed agreement and receipt of invoice, and the remaining 50% upon complete installation and receipt of invoice. • Travel, lodging and meal expenses for the artist(s) associated with this project are not reimbursable. 	

About the Committee

The Public Art Advisory Committee is appointed by the Mayor and approved by City Council. They are responsible for: Serving in an advisory capacity to City Council for recommending artwork to be placed on public property, Providing technical advisement on the development of a public art program, and Following the adopted Public Art Policy.

Attachment A: Public Art Policy

Ordinance No. 2013-40, 06-14-13

1. **Approval.** All requests to display artwork on city maintained property shall be approved by the Bentonville City Council, the Public Art Advisory Committee and if required, the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board and / or other City Boards and Commissions.
2. **Insurance.**
 - a. **Temporary Works of Art.** The City is self-insured and does not insure temporary display of artwork on city maintained property. The artist who loans temporary works or art for display on city maintained property shall bear the risk of loss from damage, destruction, or theft of the artwork while it is in the care of the City of Bentonville. The artist shall agree in writing to assume sole liability or responsibility for loss, damage, or theft of the artwork.
 - b. **Permanent Works of Art.** Insurance details relating to permanent works of shall be outlined in the contract agreement.
3. **Assumption of Risk and Public Safety.** Display of artwork shall not create an unnecessary safety hazard to the public or city employees and shall be displayed in a manner that does not unreasonably impeded traffic or interfere with public safety.
4. **Types of Display.** Art displays hosted or coordinated by the City may include competitions sponsored by the City, art displays featuring individual artist, themes and art displays featuring groups of artists.
5. **Location.** Artwork may be displayed in public places approved by City Council. Artwork may be physically separated from the main exhibit when, in the opinion of the City Council, warranted under current community standards. Artwork, other than works of art currently in placed at the time of adoption of this ordinance, shall not be displayed on the Bentonville Square.
6. **Compatibility.** Proposed public art shall be evaluated for its compatibility relative to the following:
 - Visibility and public access
 - Public safety
 - Traffic patterns
 - The relationship of the proposed public art project to the site's existing or future architectural features, its natural features, its historical, geographic and social / cultural context
 - The function and use(s) of the facility or site
 - The nature of the site's surrounding neighborhood and potential impact of the public art project on residents, businesses, existing works of art or design elements within the site's vicinity
 - Future development plans for the area which may affect the public art project.
7. **Identification of Artwork.** Works of art should be identified in an appropriate manner to the context of the artwork. Standard, consistent signage details are outlined in the contract.
8. **Sales Prohibited.** Art shall not be sold on city maintained property except as part of an organized event. Sales information shall not be posted or displayed with a work of art; interested buyers shall contact the artist directly for sales information.
9. **Payments Prohibited.** The City (or any organization or person affiliated with the City) shall not accept payments to have art displayed on city maintained property. Furthermore, the display of public art on city maintained property shall not be used by any organizations for fundraising.
10. **Presentation.** As outlined in the contract, all art needs to be finished and ready for display and artists shall remain responsible for all costs associated with presenting, setting up and taking down.
11. **Set Up / Take down.** As outlined in the contract, it shall be the responsibility of the artist to adhere to the details for presenting, set up and take down.
12. **Pick-up and Deliver / Abandonment.** As outlined in the contract, the artist shall adhere to the details for pick-up and delivery location and time. Any piece that is not picked-up by the deadline shall be treated as abandoned property subject to disposal without further notice under applicable laws.
13. **Complaints.** If the City receives signed, written complaints from ten (10) or more citizens of Bentonville about a work of art on display, then the City shall notify the artist about the complaint and allow the artist an opportunity to immediately withdraw the work. Should the artist choose not to withdraw the work, the City shall hold a meeting between the artist and complainants during which they will be given an opportunity to address the appropriateness of the display of the work of art. After the meeting, if the issue is still unresolved, the City Council shall make the final decision on whether the work of art shall be removed, relocated, relabeled, or otherwise modified giving due regard and consideration to the artist's freedom of expression and due process under the First and Fourteenth Amendments in accordance with the forum in which that artwork is displayed.
14. **Removal.** As outlined in the contract, there shall be no removal or disguise of a work of art once it is placed on display unless and until the City Council decides to do so, subject to the right of the artist to remove it.

Proposal Received for Cricket RFP

Green highlighted boxes indicate the proposals preferred by the Public Art Advisory Committee.

Jim Benedict & Lilly Kuonen

Wall All Pitch In

\$30,000



Alvaro Bonfiglio

Upper Cut

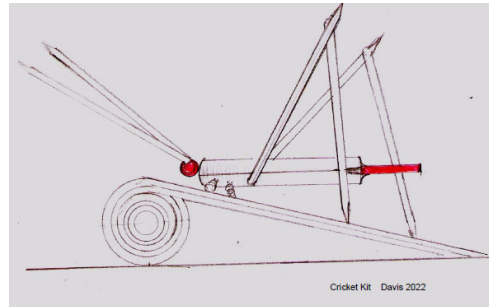
\$29,311.23



Vicki Davis

Cricket Kit

\$8,000 - \$10,000



Justin Deister

The Cricket Team

\$24,00



Thomas Erickson & Unique Creations, Inc

Wicket Monument (10 ft or 15 ft)

\$34,500



Roma Manikhin

Fairytale

\$20,000 - \$30,000

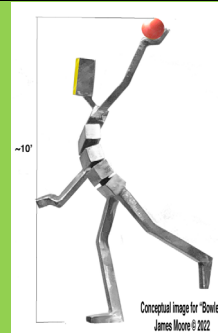
Sketch of a wooden art object



James Moore

Bowler

\$29,500

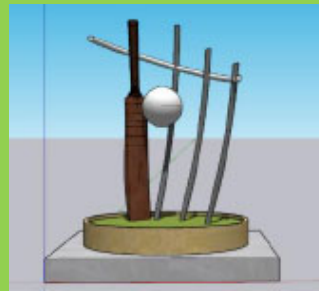


Somnath Mukherjee

Option 1_Googly

\$2,000 artist fee

Cost of materials and installation TBD

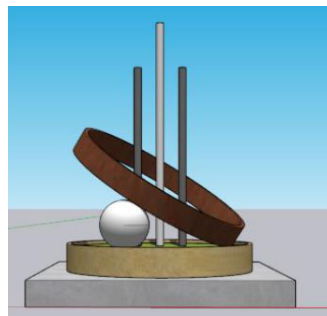


Somnath Mukherjee

Option 2_Engagement

\$2,000 artist fee

Cost of materials and installation TBD

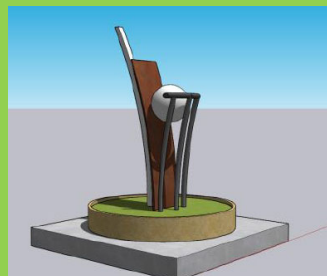


Somnath Mukherjee

Option 3_Red Inker

\$2,000 artist fee

Cost of materials and installation TBD

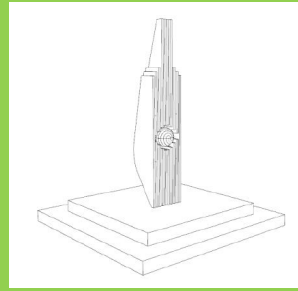


Somnath Mukherjee

Option 4_Embrace

\$2,000 artist fee

Cost of materials and installation TBD



Brady Wedman

Wicket

TBD

