

LandMarks

DIGITAL
Newsletter 2018 Issue



Governors State
UNIVERSITY

NATHAN MANILOW
SCULPTURE PARK

... where wonder emerges

Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School students explore during their field trip in May for "Outdoors@TheNATE".

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Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park

UPDATE ON Don't Tread on Me: Sculpture by Chakaia Booker

This summer, the rubber hits the road, literally. July/August may be your last chance to view the cutting edge, sipes and groove-laden tires made into innovative public art by Chakaia Booker. **Don't Tread on Me:** Sculpture by Chakaia Booker consists of three outdoor pieces—**Serendipity** (1998); **Meeting Ends** (2005); and **What's Not** (2009). Initially a textile artist, Booker decided to make public art that would be hard-wearing outdoors. The durability and malleability of tires made them the perfect solution. Booker sees her use of tires as a personal statement on humanity's relationship to the environment and our responsibility for maintaining it. Her Solo Exhibition Series joined The Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park collection in June 2014, prior to Booker's Millennium Park debut in 2016. Her work has made an indelible mark on the park's character, aligning with and raising awareness of its mission of sustainability. Check social media and website for details.



Left: **What's Not** 2009
rubber tires, stainless steel
110 x 64 x 34
Loan courtesy of the artist



Above: **Meeting Ends** 2005
rubber tires, stainless steel
80 x 50 x 47
Loan courtesy of the artist



Left: **Serendipity** 1998
rubber tires, wood, steel
Loan courtesy of the artist

Inside

- News from the Park
- Focus on Conservation
- Education Updates

NEW Instagram

View striking images from the Park at your convenience on Instagram [@nathanmanilowsculpturepark](https://www.instagram.com/nathanmanilowsculpturepark). One of the few outdoor sanctuaries in the Southland, the sights are breathtaking throughout every season. Here are a few of our latest updates.



House Divided 1983
Bruce Nauman
cast concrete
Commissioned by the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park, GSU Foundation



Illinois Landscape No. 5
1976
John Henry
painted steel
Commissioned by the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park, GSU Foundation with support from the NEA



Oscar's Inclination 2003
Michael Dunbar
painted steel
Gift of Dr. Christopher Graf



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ReMarks

So much has been happening in the Park since our last newsletter—we welcomed new advisory board members and said farewell and thank you to those who departed; we continued conservation projects for artwork and the prairie; we sited a new arrival on campus and planned loads of great educational programs, tours, and more—which you will read about in this edition—but let me highlight a few things of particular note.

Governors State University's Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park Board

Lewis Manilow, *Founder*
Jeff Stevenson, *Director and Curator*

Elizabeth L. Kelley, *President*
Paul Uzureau, *Vice-President*
Leona Calvin, *Secretary*
Jacqueline Lewis, *Immediate Past-President*

Jerry Lee Anderson
Shay Brokemon
Gregg Lunceford
Patricia Mell Ragland
Susan Ormsby
Michael Perrott
Regine Rousseau
Jyoti Srivastava
Victoria Strole
Al Sturges
Jason Zingsheim
Jim Zumerchik

Ex-officio

Elaine Maimon, *Ph.D., GSU President*
Will Davis, *CEO, GSU Foundation*

Website: www.govst.edu/sculpture
General Email Address: jstevenson@govst.edu
Phone: 708-534-4021

Hours: Dawn until dusk every day

Admission: Free admission to park, some activities have fees.

Send a message with "LandMarks Address" in the subject heading to sculpture@govst.edu

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Please direct questions or comments to **Jeff Stevenson**, *Director & Curator, Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park and Visual Arts Gallery, Governors State University.*

We affectionately refer to the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park as "The Nate" and are launching a new inclusive friend-raising campaign—the "I'm a Friend of Nate!" initiative. Since The Nate is free, public resource for the community, 365 days a year from dawn to dusk, we have always had difficulty in tracking numbers of visitors. This new initiative will give everyone an opportunity to declare "I'm a Friend of Nate" simply by signing up and donating a dollar or more, allowing us to more fully demonstrate to funders the breadth of our roster of supporters. I encountered this idea of engagement and friend-raising at the American Alliance of Museums conference this past May. Our situation is unique, as an arts organization within a state university, but many of the ideas shared can be applied to our own visitor experience, staffing issues, and exhibition goals. "Sculpture, Wine, and Dine" on September 15 has the theme "Where the City Meets the Prairie" (a line from the original NMSP catalogue introduction, written by Peter Scheldahl). Limelight Catering's creative powerhouse, Chef Molly, is designing unique menu items in response to the theme and will be sure to please even the most hard-core foodies among you. The event sold out last year, so get your tickets now. Pre-event cart rides are still available to enjoy your own personal tour of the park—sign up now!

We continue to partner with other arts organizations such as Art Design Chicago for our Earth Day Tour this past April, and our upcoming "Empty Bowls" event with SAMBA (Southland Arts, Municipalities, and Business Alliance) and GSU's Art Department in October. Watch for more exciting news on social media and our website.

What is the relationship between GSU students and The Nate? What are the students' favorite sculptures? Are there volunteer opportunities with The Nate that can also benefit GSU students? These are just a few of the questions and conversations that were explored at the Prairie Place Resident Student dinner hosted by The Nate. We look forward to learning more about how we can grow together, as we continue to occupy this land together.

I look forward to expanding our activities and service to our community through continued partnerships with you, our supporters. Please join me in saying, "I'm a Friend of Nate."

Sincerely,

Jeff Stevenson
Director & Curator, Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park and Visual Arts Gallery



www.govst.edu/sculpture

NEWS FROM THE PARK

Featured Artists Bring the City to the Prairie

The Park's annual farm-to-table benefit is right around the corner, and this year's featured artists, Christine Tarkowski and Terrence Karpowicz, bring the best of Chicago to our museum in the prairie.

Christine Tarkowski is a Chicago-based artist whose works range in scale from the ordinary to the monumental. Many of her recent works point toward the debris of western culture relative to systems of democracy, religion, and capitalism. Tarkowski's "Working on a Failed Utopia," was commissioned by the Park in 2006. In the artist's words: Resembling a large bump, or stone (approx. 12' high x 20' diameter), it's hard to tell if it is rising out of or sinking into the earth; a fragment of the idealized entropic city transported to the rural suburbs. The project is a simulation of idealism, and like all failed utopias of the past, and the yet-to-be conceived ones of the future, it is blind to its own delusion." Her recent solo exhibitions include *Imitatio Dei* at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago and *Last Things Will Be First And First Things Will Be Last* at the Chicago Cultural Center. Tarkowski is currently an Associate Professor in the Fiber and Material Studies Department at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.



Working on a Failed Utopia
Christine Tarkowski



Art Ark
Terrence Karpowicz

Terrence Karpowicz's recent work has touched the local community but has global significance. He has begun work on a Chicago firefighters memorial on the Far South Side, a piece that will feature steel from the World Trade Center towers that collapsed on Sept. 11, 2001. The steel was donated in memory of Chicago Fire Department Capt. Herbert "Herbie" Johnson who, along with dozens of other Chicagoans, traveled to New York City to help in the aftermath of the deadly terrorist attack. The finished sculpture will be placed in King Lockhart Park, 10609 S. Western Ave. Two firefighters died in the park in 1998. Johnson lived down the street. Johnson's daughter is raising money to help get the sculpture off the ground. For more information, visit <https://www.gofundme.com/raise-the-beam>. Karpowicz, a Cleveland, OH native, has been living in Chicago since 1976 when he established Karpowicz Studios on West 41st St. in Chicago. **Source: WGN News**

Take a Walk with OTOCAST

The free **Otocast app** is your personal tour guide. Explore the park with the voices of multiple renowned sculptors leading the way. Look for it in your app store on your phone, and use it at destination attractions all over the world.



From August 20 to September 30, 2018 the Visual Arts Gallery at Governors State University will feature an exhibition of the work of Christine Tarkowski and Terrence Karpowicz. Guests of the September 15 "Sculpture, Wine, and Dine" event will have an opportunity to meet the artists. We plan to continue exhibiting work by artists in The Nate's collection in the Visual Arts Gallery as a value-added feature for our guests of the Park.



SAVE THE DATE
for next year's event!
Mark your calendar
for September 15,
2018.

SUSANIN Knows How to Live in the Midst of Art

Sean Susanin knows a thing or two about living in the midst of art, or making it possible for others to do so. As founder of SUSANIN'S Auctioneers & Appraisers, for the last twenty years he has been serving a global market of art buyers and sellers. After ten years in Chicago's Merchandise Mart, SUSANIN'S relocated to a 40,000 square-foot building in the emerging South Loop, at 900 South Clinton Street. Sean Susanin and his exceptional team have become internationally recognized by wealth managers, art consultants, dealers, and collectors as an auction market leader in Chicago and around the world. So when Susanin offered to donate a piece to Governors State University by Abbott Pattison, we gladly found the perfect home where students interact with the art. Living in the midst of art is a concept GSU students have become accustomed to through experiencing art around every corner of campus—visual, performing and sculpture. The donation came about after the Park's Sculpture, Wine, and Dine event last September, an event offering tailored exposure opportunities for local businesses and sponsors education prepares students for life, not just a career.



Untitled
Abbot Pattison
(American, 1916-1999)
81", monumental patinated
bronze sculpture depicting
intertwined figures
Inscribed "Firenze" c. 1960"
Professionally restored to its
original dark green patina
in 2015 by Barry Tinsley.

► Donating Online at govst.edu/donate

Visit Govst.edu/sculpture for details on all giving opportunities and ways to get involved.

CONSERVATION

HOME IS WHERE THE ART IS

Marie and Nathan, two first year students at Governors State University, made a recent discovery while taking a walk in a remote part of the campus grounds. A striking bronze sculpture was overgrown with weeds and in need of some love and attention. They did some homework and learned that although the Park's Director would like to move the art, other pressing conservation projects were slated to happen first. The students shared, "We want the work to be once again viewed and appreciated by all—GSU students and staff, those who visit and volunteer at the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park. We owe it to the artist who created it to take care of the piece, and put it where it can be seen." The art that moved Marie and Nathan is *Lanleff-Demure No. 4* by French artist Henri Etienne-Martin; a gift from The Art Institute in 2003.

The students shared that "Art is important for education and for life." Jeff Stevenson, Director of the Sculpture Park said, "At GSU we understand that art is important to every person in our community: every student in every major, every faculty and staff member, and the local, state, national, and international communities we serve. Join Marie and Nathan in their GoFundMe "Home is Where the ART is" campaign effort to relocate this sculpture.



Lanleff-Demeure No. 4

UPDATE: GOOD NEWS!

Two major donations came in for the campaign—\$1000 and \$4000, bringing total donations to \$6,045! Those who wish to participate may make checks payable to: "GSU Foundation–NMSP" and mail to: Jeff Stevenson, Director & Curator, Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park and Visual Arts Gallery at Governors State University, 1 University Parkway, University Park, IL 60484.



Join The Bill Dodd Prairie Restoration Effort

The Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park is one of the few outdoor sanctuaries in the south suburbs of Chicago where the natural landscape is strikingly beautiful throughout all four seasons. As such, one of our core values is to conserve and expand the natural prairieland. Prairie Restorers join humanist and scholar Bill Dodd in his mission to leave the landscape better than we found it. Donations augment the Bill Dodd Memorial Fund and are allocated towards this conservation ethic.

► Donating Online at govst.edu/donate

Visit Govst.edu/sculpture for details on all giving opportunities and ways to get involved.

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EDUCATION

Meet the New Educator Coordinator



Paul

From the moment Sherri Denault joined the Park's team, she hit the ground running. In April, she welcomed 87 youth from Martin Luther King Elementary, pictured here with *Paul*, to explore *Outdoors@TheNate*; a S.T.E.A.M. tour illuminating science, technology, engineering, and math through the lens of art. The Former Gallery Director at Olivet Nazarene University's Victorian House Art Gallery, Denault was responsible for curating six shows per academic year, in addition to being an Adjunct Professor of Art, teaching studio courses in Design 1, 3D Design, Drawing 1, Painting 1 and Figure Studies.

Sherri, who served as Grad Assistant for the Visual Arts Gallery at GSU (2013), has brought innovative summer programming to the Park, including *En Plein Air* (painting outdoors) and a Children's Day, inspired by the Japanese art of "Koinobori," or carp streamers that decorate the spring landscape of Japan in honor of their National Children's Day.



She's also taking the Park "on the road," into the community. Denault attend the Homewood Science Club's "Metal Mania" event in June, showcasing the metal sculptures in the NMSP collection. The children in attendance were given paper maquettes of sculptures to take home and build to learn more about the process of creating sculpture.

Upcoming Children's Day: GETTING 3-DIMENSIONAL

Children ages 5 to 12 will enjoy a 45-minute guided tour, including *IL Landscape No. 5*, *House Divided*, *Yes! For Lady Day*, *Icarus*, and *Bodark Arc*, followed by an urban house design project using paper.

Contact sdenault@govst.edu for details.



Bodark Arc



Yes! For Lady Day



Icarus



Become a Volunteer Docent

Docents give of their time to serve our community and students in leading educational tours and themed explorations of the park. If you'd like to be a docent, please let us know! Training will be provided and docents may sign up for tours that are convenient for their schedule. Contact sdenault@govst.edu for details.