



L A F A Y E T T E

## Public Art Committee

Dear Teachers and Administrators:

The Lafayette Public Art Committee is pleased to share the Art on the Street Sculpture walk with you. Art on the Street is a sculpture walk located in Old Town Lafayette. There are 16 sculptures situated within a 6 block area of Public Road. There are three permanent collection sculptures within in a half mile radius of the Art on the Street installations.

We hope to further our goal of bringing art to the community by making Art on the Street accessible to community members of all ages. We have developed multi-age educational tools that will help you utilize this local resource in your classroom. Please consider using Art on the Street as a walking field trip during this school year.

Included in our curriculum packet are ideas for cross-content activities, vocabulary, sculpture descriptions, artist statements, and a map. These may be utilized with a variety of age groups in the context of art appreciation, community studies, literacy and writing.

In addition to the printed materials, several of the local artists have volunteered to meet with classes. Please don't hesitate to contact one of our committee members to schedule an artist or a Public Art Committee member to meet you on your tour.

Thank you for considering using Art on the Street to supplement your classroom instruction.

Sincerely,

Susan Booker

Cultural Resources Coordinator

&

Public Art Committee

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## ***Art on the Street Curriculum***

### **Objective:**

To introduce students to local public art installations. To engage students in reaction to the art, reflection on the meaning of the art, connection of the art to the community, connection of the art to self, study of the art: materials, tools, techniques.

### **Materials:**

Journal or paper

Pen or pencil

Sketch pad (optional)

Colored pencils (optional)

**Writing/discussion Prompts** – Use the below writing prompts for writing or discussion of the sculpture. On your walking tour of Art on the Street answer the following questions about each sculpture.

### **Literacy**

- What is your first reaction to this piece?
- What's the story? Tell a story about the object in this sculpture.
- What title would you give this sculpture?
- Why do you think the artist made this sculpture?
- List adjectives that describe the sculpture. What is the feeling/texture/size/color, etc?
- How would you describe this sculpture to a person who could not see it?
- Which piece is your favorite? Why?

### **Community:**

- What does this piece of art tell about the artist?
- This artist is part of a community. What message is he trying to tell his community members with this sculpture?
- Why is art in public places important?
- List other places you see art? Do you see art in your home? What are the art pieces?
- Does this art tell a story? Is the artist a storyteller? What story does it tell?

### **Art Content**

- What do you think this sculpture is made out of? How do you think the artist made this sculpture?

- What questions would you ask the artist about this work if the artist were here?
- What do you think is good about this sculpture? What is not so good? Explain why for both of your answers.
- Why do you think other people should come to see this sculpture?
- If you created this piece, what would you do differently?
- What if some people do not like a work of public art? Explain your position.
- What is art?

**Suggested Activities:** Activities that can be done prior to the Art on the Street Tour:

- **Examining Public Art:** Some art is on display in private homes, galleries, and museums and some art is on display in public. What are some differences between displaying art in private spaces versus displaying it in public? Write a list of pros and cons about private versus public art. Discuss with a partner.
- **Posing:** Imagine that an artist asked you to pose for a sculpture. How would you pose, and why would you pose that way? Does the pose communicate a message or tell a story? Discuss it with your peers, act it out, draw it, or write about it.
- **Sculpture Design Dream:** Sculpture can be made out of many things. Brainstorm all the things that you could use to make an outdoor sculpture. Sculpture can be made to look like almost anything. Brainstorm all the things you could make a sculpture look like. Write about, or draw a sculpture you would make for an outdoor sculpture garden.

Activities that can be done after the Art on the Street Tour:

- **Art Critic:** Become an art critic and write a review of the sculpture walk. Include information about one or more of the sculpture or artist. Write your article as if you were a newspaper reporter. Include as many specific details as you can to support your critique.
- **Letter to the Artist:** Choose your favorite piece of art work. What questions do you have for the artist? What would you tell the artist about your feelings his or her sculpture? Write a letter to the artist.
- **Art Poetry:** Choose one of the sculptures and write a cinquain pattern poem about the piece. A cinquain can follow word count or syllable count.

Syllable-Count Cinquain

*An outlet for expression*

Line 1            2 Syllable

*Create*

Line 2            4 Syllable

Line 3            6 Syllable

Line 4            8 Syllable

Line 5            2 Syllable

Word-Count Cinquain

Line 1            1 Word (title)

Line 2            2 Words (describes title)

Line 3            3 Words (action)

Line 4            4 Word (feeling)

Line 5            1 Word (refers to title)

**Sample:**

*Mona*

*Smiling slightly*

*Rugged landscape behind*

*Hands folded in a calm repose*

*Lisa*

**Sample:**

*Art*

*Visual expression*

*Paint, sculpt, draw*

- **Map It:** Create a map of the art walk. Include landmarks, sculpture sites, and a legend. Use detail and color so someone new to the area could follow the map to view the sculpture.
  
- **Tell a Story:** Choose one of the sculptures you saw on the sculpture walk. Imagine it could see and hear. What could it see from its location? What could it hear? Write a story from the perspective of the sculpture. Add events and dialogue to give the sculpture an interesting view of its world.

### **Ideas for Art Activities:**

- **Be the Artist:** Imagine you are a public artist. Choose a location for your artwork. Where is that location? Describe your artwork. What is it? How large is it? What is it made of? What does it represent, what is its story?
- **Suggested projects** -These projects may be done individually, in small groups, or as a whole class.
  - Create a collage representing your public art piece.
  - Take photos of public spaces and design a work of art for those places.
  - Create a three-dimensional model of your public art piece.
  - Create drawings of your public art piece in its location.
  - Combine any or all of these approaches, and create a mixed media assemblage of your public art idea.
- **All Class Project** - Design and build a public art piece for your school.
  - Design process - What will you make? What's the intention/message of this artwork for the community? Where will the project be located?
  - Proposal process - Present sketches and models to school community.
  - Preparation Process - Gathering materials and tools, planning the operation.
  - Fabrication & Installation - Building the project.
  - Celebration - Official presentation of project to the community, opening reception.

# *Art on the Street Curriculum*

## *Relevant Vocabulary*



**Abstract** - in art: a non-representational work of art

The artist focuses on formal aspects of art, emphasizing elements such as line, color, form as they relate to each other with little or no attempt at creating a realistic image.

**Armature** - a skeleton-like framework to give rigid internal support to a modeled/assembled sculpture

**Carving** - a subtractive sculpture process

Starting with a solid block, the sculptor removes material using chisels and other tools to 'reveal' the finished form. Traditional carving materials include stone, especially marble, and fine-grained woods.

**Casting** - a method of producing one or more copies of a sculpture

An original sculpture is created and covered with a mold material that sets hard when dry. The mold is separated to release the original sculpture. The mould is reassembled, and casting material is poured in to the void and left to set. When the cast sculpture has cooled, or cured, the mold is separated to release it. The mold may and reassembled to cast the next copy.

**Forge** - a special fireplace, hearth, or furnace in which metal is heated before shaping

**Form** - element of art that is three-dimensional (height, width, and depth) and encloses volume

For example, a triangle, which is two-dimensional, is a shape, but a pyramid, which is three dimensional, is a form.

**Found object, found material, or found image** - an object, material, or image, not originally intended as a work of art, which is obtained, selected, and used by an artist

**Foundry** - a workplace where metal is melted and poured into molds

Also see cast, forge, and lost-wax casting.

**Horizontal**

1: of or relating to the horizon

2: parallel to the horizon

3: being on the same level

**Icon** - a sign, image, or thing regarded as a representative symbol of something mythological or religious

**Kinetic art** - art that contains moving parts or depends on motion for its effect

Wind, a motor or the observer generally powers the moving parts.

**Lost-wax casting** - a casting process for which a sculptor first produces a sculpture in wax

A mold of heat resistant materials is made around the original. When the mold is heated, the wax melts away, so that molten metal can replace it, reproducing exactly the original wax sculpture.

**Maquette** - a small-scale model for a finished sculpture used to visualize and test shapes and ideas for a full-scale sculpture

**Medium** - is the material or technique used by an artist to produce a work of art

**Modeling** - an additive sculpting process in which material is built up to produce the finished form

Unlike carving, the sculptor may correct mistakes or make changes by removing or reshaping material. Modeling requires a soft, workable material that is later cured or fired to set it hard. Typical modeling materials include clay, wax, plaster, and papier-mâché.

**Mold** - a mold is a reversed impression of a sculpture which is used to cast replica sculptures

The material used to construct the mould needs to accurately reproduce the surface detail of the original sculpture and also be strong enough to keep its shape during casting and resilient enough to retain detail after multiple castings.

**Monumental**

1: of or relating to a monument

2: serving as or resembling a monument: **MASSIVE**; *also*: highly significant: **OUTSTANDING**

**Public Art** - a work of art created by an artist specifically for a public space, artwork in public space

**Realistic** - representing what is real, naturalistic

**Representational** - in art: artwork that depicts objects, figures, or places as seen

**Scale** - a proportion/ratio used in determining the dimensional relationship between a representation to that which it represents, its actual size

**Scaling up** - a method of copying a small sculpture on a larger scale by increasing all the measurements proportionately

**Three-dimensional** - having or appearing to have length, width, and depth, giving the appearance of depth or varying distances

**Two-Dimensional** - having or appearing to have length and width but no depth

**Vertical**

1: directly overhead

2: going straight up or down from a level surface

**Weld** - to unite or fuse pieces of metal together by the use of heat or pressure or both