



December 23, 2024

Alex M. Smith  
The Philadelphia Art Commission  
One Parkway, 1515 Arch Street, 13th Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

**SUBJECT: Request for Art Commission Administrative Review of Public Art Conservation**

Dear Alex,

Creative Philadelphia is submitting this letter to the Art Commission for Administrative approval of conservation work for the following City of Philadelphia owned public art sculptures to take place during 2024-2025. All of the artworks listed below have either received conservation treatment or are in process of receiving treatment due to work that was identified to be time sensitive or high priority. The work in process of being done is described below and is submitted for the Art Commission's record/notification.

1. *Firefighter's Arc* by Jill Sablosky and Erica Ehrenbard , Engine 37, 101 Highland Ave
2. *Giraffe* by Harold Kimmelman, Junod Playground, 12770 Dunks Ferry Rd
3. *Bear* by Dexter Jones, Columbia Ave Playground, 11<sup>th</sup> and Cecil B Moore
4. *Art, Science, and Knowledge* by Edna Andrade, Cecil B. Moore Branch Library, 2320 Cecil B. Moore Ave
5. *African Legends* by Robert Phillips, Widener Branch Library, 2808-2826 West Lehigh Ave
6. *Butterfly in Cocoon* by Joseph C. Baily, Dendy Playground, 10<sup>th</sup> and Jefferson St.
7. *Dickens & Little Nell* by Frank Edwin Elwell, Clark Park, 43<sup>rd</sup> and Chester Ave
8. *Bear Cubs with Frog* by George Papashvily, West Oak Lane Library, 2000 Washington Ln
9. *General Tadeusz Kosciuszko* by Marian Konieczny, 18<sup>th</sup> and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway
10. *Point* by Rebecca Rose, Athletic Recreation Center, 26<sup>th</sup> and Master
11. *Washington Monument* by Rudolph Siemering, 26<sup>th</sup> and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway
12. *Bird* by Harold Kimmelman, Roosevelt Playground, 6455 Walker St
13. *Word Wall* by David Cerulli, Max Myers Recreation Center, 1601 Hellerman St.
14. *El Ritmo del Centro* by Amber Art and Design, Rivera Recreation Center and Mann Older Adult Center, 3201 N. 5th St
15. *Looking Toward the Future, Looking Toward the Past* by Charles Searles, West Oak Lane Branch Library, 74<sup>th</sup> and Washington Ln
16. *Deborah Fisher Wharton Memorial Pylons* (artist unknown), Fisher Park, 571 W Spencer St
17. *Acrobat Doing Handspring* by Harold Kimmelman, Houseman Playground, 5091 Summerdale Ave
18. *Tiger Chased by Chipmunk* by Henry Mitchell, Olney Branch Library, 5501 N. 5<sup>th</sup> St
19. *Batter* by Joseph Brown, Citizens Bank Park
20. *Play at Second Base* by Joseph Brown, Citizens Bank Park
21. *Mr Baseball (Connie Mack)* by Harry Rosin, Citizens Bank Park

22. *Hive* by Kate Kaman, Maplewood Mall
23. *Seaweed Girl* by Beatrice Fenton, Fairmount Park Horticultural Center
24. *Centennial Fountain* by Margaret Foley, Fairmount Park Horticultural Center

The conservation scope of work for #1 *Firefighter's Arc* consists of removing all of the old, accessible lacquer coating and remaining patina from the stainless steel back on the bench. The metal will be treated to neutralize any active chemistry and a new coating of lacquer will be applied. Conservation treatments are being performed by Sculptural Services, LLC.

For #2, *Giraffe*, the conservation work consists of cleaning graffiti from the surface of the sculpture and removing all dirt and soiling. The sculpture will be spot patinated the surface of the bronze to unify the surface appearance, then waxed and buffed to restore the sculpture's finish. Treatments are performed by Heritage Conservation Collective, LLC.

For #3, *Bear*, the treatments consist of removing graffiti from the surface of the sculpture and the base, then treating the bronze with hot wax and buffing it to restore its finish. Cracks in the cast stone base will be filled. The conservation work is being performed by Heritage Conservation Collective, LLC.

For #4, *Art, Science, and Knowledge*, the work consists of cleaning ceramic tiles on the mural and the frame, then performing repairs to the areas of damaged grout. The work is being performed by Heritage Conservation Collective, LLC.

For #5, *African Legends*, the conservation treatments consist of cleaning the metal wall installation to remove soiling and debris, then waxing and polishing the sculpture with lint-free cloths to restore the finish. The work is being performed by Heritage Conservation Collective, LLC.

For #6, *Butterfly in Cocoon*, the work consists of removing the existing failing paint system, cleaning the bare metal underneath, and priming and repainting the sculpture with a paint system that matches the original paint color. The work is being performed by Heritage Conservation Collective, LLC.

For #7, *Dickens and Little Nell*, the work consists of removing graffiti from the surface of the sculpture with gentle scrubbing and cleaning. The work is being performed by Heritage Conservation Collective, LLC.

For #8, *Bear Cubs with Frogs*, the conservation treatments consist of gently cleaning the sculpture to remove dust and soiling. The work is being performed by Heritage Conservation Collective, LLC.

For #9, *General Tadeusz Kosciuszko*, Heritage Conservation Collective, LLC's conservation treatments consist of performing composite repairs to the marble base to re-establish missing marble at the top of the west face of the base and replacing broken granite with stone as similar to the existing one as possible, re-setting areas of the base with dislodged granite stone, and repointing failing mortar joints. The work is being performed by Heritage Conservation Collective, LLC.

For #10, *Point*, the work consists of erecting scaffolding to clean the sculpture to remove atmospheric and general soiling, which is considerable and buffing the sculpture with soft cloths once soiling and debris is removed. The work is being performed by Heritage Conservation Collective, LLC.

For #11, *Washington Monument*, the treatment requires consists of removing graffiti from the monument's stairs using gentle scrubbing and cleaning with soap and water. The work is being performed by Sculptural Services, LLC.

For #12, *Bird*, the work consists of removing the existing failing paint system and painting the sculpture with paint that matches the existing colors and serves as a corrosion inhibitor. The conservation treatments are being performed by Heritage Conservation Collective, LLC.

For #13, *Word Wall*, conservation treatments include scraping the surface of the sculpture to remove the peeling and cracking paint system and painting the sculpture with masonry, stucco and brick paint matching the sculpture's original color. The work is being performed by Heritage Conservation Collective, LLC.

For #14, *El Ritmo del Centro*, the work consists of removing large areas of graffiti using a pressure washer, touching up paint matching the mural's original colors, and re-applying anti-graffiti coating. The work is being performed by Amber Art and Design, working with the Mural Arts Philadelphia Maintenance Crew.

For #15, *Looking Toward the Future, Looking Toward the Past*, conservation treatments include gently cleaning the sculpture to remove dust and soiling. The work is being performed by Heritage Conservation Collective, LLC.

For #16, *Deborah Fisher Wharton Memorial Pylons*, the work consists of removing biological growth, general soiling, graffiti, and overgrowth from the pylons. The work is being performed by Heritage Conservation Collective, LLC.

For #17, *Acrobat Doing Handspring*, the conservation treatments include cleaning the steel figure to remove soiling, cleaning and scraping the post to remove the peeling and cracking paint system and repainting using a paint system that matches the existing colors. The work is being performed by Heritage Conservation Collective, LLC.

For #18, *Tiger Chased by Chipmunk*, the work consists of cleaning the sculptures to remove soiling, removing wall paint and drips from the surface of both sculptures, and waxing and buffing the sculptures to restore their finish. The conservation treatments are being performed by Heritage Conservation Collective, LLC.

For #19, *Batter*, the conservation treatments consist of cleaning, waxing and buffing the bronze sculpture. Treatments to the base include removing the deep staining with mineral paint to unify the color and to protect against further degradation and removing old sealant to replace it with new color-matched sealant. The work is being performed by Sculptural Services, LLC.

For #20, *Play at Second Base*, the work includes cleaning the sculpture and waxing and buffing it to restore its finish. Treatments to the base include removing staining, removing old failing sealant to replace it with new color-matched sealant, cleaning out the joint at the bottom of the base and resealing the entire base perimeter. Conservation treatments are being performed by Sculptural Services, LLC.

For #21, *Mr. Baseball (Connie Mack)*, the conservation treatments consist of cleaning the sculpture and base, waxing and buffing the bronze statue, lightly sanding bonded layers of soiling from the granite on the base, filling open joints with color-matched mortar, cleaning and re-applying lacquer on the plaque to protect it from the elements, and filling the open void on sidewalk on front of the statue, where a plaque may have been previously installed, with color-matched mortar. The work is being performed by Sculptural Services, LLC.

For #22, *Hive*, conservation treatments performed by Sculptural Services, LLC consist of removing soiling and residue on the entire concrete bench installation, replacing a damaged and bent section of the aluminum strip that serves as trim below the top concrete slab, replacing missing carriage bolt anchors, and performing spot repairs to the epoxy sealant and urethane finish on top of the concrete slabs by sanding, painting, and recoating to match the existing artwork in consultation with the artist, Kate Kaman.

For #23, *Seaweed Girl*, the work consists of stripping the bronze statue's wax coating to treat large areas of green discoloration on the statue, applying a chemical patina to even out the discolored areas, and waxing and buffing the bronze to protect it from further deterioration. The conservation treatments are being performed by Sculptural Services, LLC.

For #24, *Centennial Fountain*, the conservation treatments consist of cleaning the entire marble sculpture with a low-psi pressure washer, applying rust remover to the iron-stained areas, gently sanding the low wall of the outer basin and treated them with coats of natural stone sealer. The work is being performed by Sculptural Services, LLC.

We are requesting for this to be included on the **January 8, 2025** Philadelphia Art Commission meeting agenda as an Administrative item for approval (as typically presented in the past).

Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to call me at 215.686.4596.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Marguerite Anglin".

Marguerite Anglin, RA, NOMA  
Public Art Director  
Creative Philadelphia