

PATHWAYS: ART ON THE MINUTEMAN BIKEWAY

A Partnership Project of the
Arlington Commission on the Arts and Culture
and Arlington Public Art
funded in part by grants from
the Arlington Cultural Council
and Massachusetts Cultural Council,
along with donations from individual supporters.



We commissioned artists to create temporary public art pieces on a section of the Minuteman Bikeway. The first 3 went up over the summer and then 2 more were installed in the fall, 2017. Our goals for these projects:

- to bring public art into a public space where town residents and visitors can enjoy it;
- to develop public art installations which prompt people to notice the natural, social and cultural world surrounding them;
- to contribute to the Bikeway's 25th Anniversary celebrations; and,
- to support the Town's application for its first Cultural District by enhancing the connection between Arlington Center and Capitol Square/East Arlington.



Flutter

Michael Moss & Claudia Ravischiere

Flutter



Massachusetts Cultural Council

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Arlington Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

We are excited to bring Flutter to Arlington, a work created by Claudia Ravischiere and Michael Moss and originally installed in Fort Point, Boston.

Flutter consists of 60+ silhouetted plexi butterflies, in translucent blue color, which would be mounted in a graceful formation on the chain link bordering the bike path above an underpass for car traffic.

In this location, Flutter connects with the natural beauty of the site; a view of Spy Pond is framed by the translucent butterflies. On the Bikeway, Flutter alludes to movement, travel, and migration, reflecting the role of the path as a transportation corridor that traverses three towns. The artists were inspired by the many diverse cultural traditions that use the butterfly as a symbol; it can stand for strength, protection, transformation, and the soul. Personally, they also view it as a powerful representation of freedom & joy.



You/Me
 Us/Them
 Visible/Invisible
 Active/Passive
 Accept/Reject
 Majority/Minority
 Admit/Deny
 Inside/Outside
 True/False
 Here/There
 Alone/Together
 Now/Then
 Arrive/Depart
 Always/Never
 All/None
 Left/Right
 Against/For
 Absent/Present
 Best/Worst
 Begin/End
 Bad/Good
 Dangerous/Safe
 Less/More
 Old/New

The Rhetoric of Opposites Nilou Moochhala

The Rhetoric of Opposites



Massachusetts Cultural Council

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Arlington resident Nilou Moochhala created a text-based piece to highlight the polarizing, divisive language that currently dominates many national political debates. Moochhala was inspired by the Bikeway's 2-way traffic – each side intently focused on its own destination – as well as its link to the historic ride of William Dawes at the beginning of the American War of Independence.

The installation generated some controversy as people puzzled out the meaning and debated whether the work was appropriate for a public space. Almost everyone we talked with said that they appreciated that it prompted them to think -- about relationships between people, the nature of community, politics and the power of language.



City Fox, Stewy, British Street Artist

City Fox



Massachusetts Cultural Council

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Arlington's greenspaces provide food and shelter for many small animals: foxes, skunks, raccoons, possums, squirrels and a huge variety of birds. The fox, in particular, has become a neighborhood mascot through the Fox Library.

UK-based Stewy sent us two stenciled prints to wheat paste to the walls of a pedestrian underpass. The fox and the rabbit are part of a series he has been creating of urban wildlife found in London's streets and backyards.

The location was selected to give a sense that although foxes live around us, they often stick to hidden places, going under the busy Bike-way rather than along it.



Ripple Adria Arch & the 57-member Arlington Knitting Brigade

Ripple



Massachusetts Cultural Council

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Adria Arch led a community-based participatory project spectacularly transforming a group of trees with color and texture. We recruited 57 volunteers to form the Arlington Knitting Brigade and create this large scale collaborative work of art designed and directed by Adria.

Each brigade member picked a section of a tree to make their own. Everyone used the same palette, selected by Adria; the individual designs created by each crafter were unified by the shared colors of their yarn.

Ripple refers to the ripples on the surface of nearby Spy Pond, and the ripples -- of positive energy, kindness, and activism -- that can move through and connect a community. We see Ripple as attesting to the importance of environmental stewardship and celebrating the unlimited results people can achieve by coming together; By weaving a wild and vibrant tapestry that respects difference and uniting diversity, we created a tribute to community and artistic expression.



THANKS TO THE ARLINGTON KNITTING BRIGADE

Kirsi Allison-Ampe • Sumita Austen • Jo Babiarz
 Katrina Bernstein • Judi Bohn • Lucinda Brandt • Mary
 Brooks • Lisa Brown • Eliza Burden • Sybil Carey • Teri
 Carilli • Aurora Conner • Candice Cruz Dintino • Renee
 DeBlois • Mary Denton • Pam DiBona • Sue Doctrow •
 Jeanette Downing • Joyce Dwyer • Amy Ellentuck • Liz
 Fancher • Christina Foster • Becca Gerner • Susan
 Goldman • Amy Goldstein • Sharon Grossman •
 Kimberley Harding • Charlotte Heyden • Susan Larson •
 Heather Leavell • Karen Lefkowitz • Jennifer Lewis Forbes
 • Brenda Lovette • Elaine Lyte • Katharine MacPhail •
 Pinal Maniar • Nora Mann • Susan McCabe • Suzanne
 McLeod • Catherine Miller •
 Bonnie Payne • Janet Peluso •
 Ema Rodrigues • Holly Rossi •
 Karen Roth LoRusso • Kim Salazar
 • Carolyn Schneyer • Heidi
 Sheehan • Dava Silvia • Joy
 Spadafora • Sharon Stafford •
 Rebecca Steinitz • Marina Strauss
 • Harriet Vanderput • Michele Vitti
 • Sue Wood • Sara Young











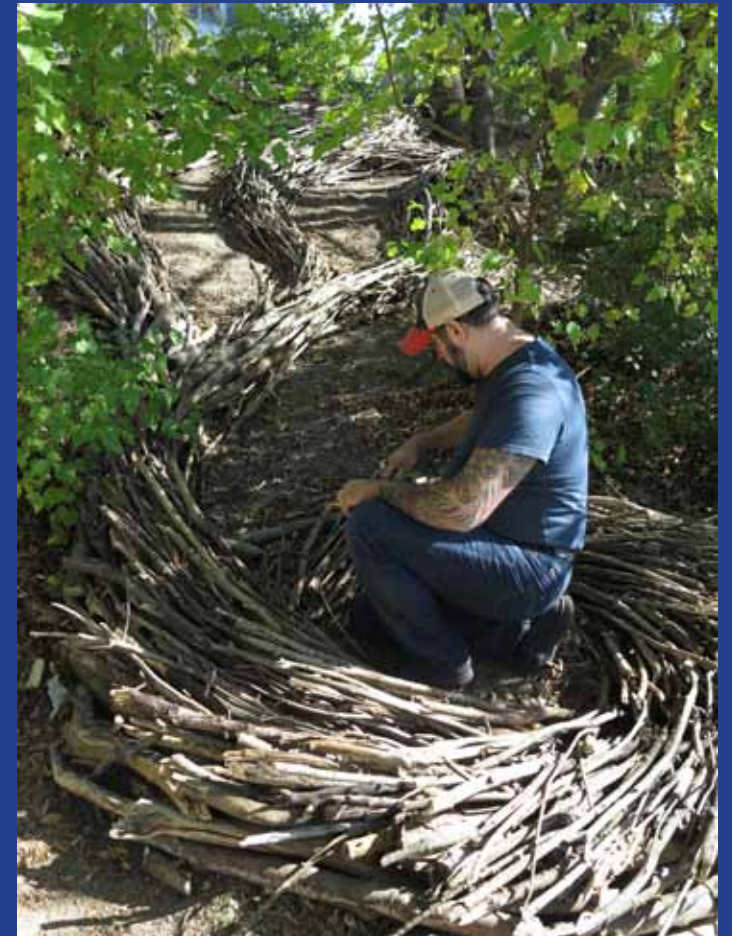
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REINFORCES AND
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CONNECTS
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AND CAPITOL SQUARE

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& QUALITY OF LIFE
IN ARLINGTON





Frank Vasello
Current at Spy Pond

Frank Vasello at Spy Pond

Frank Vasello visited Arlington for 10 days in October. He gathered sticks in the woods along the Bikeway near Spy Pond. He used these to construct a unique environmental sculpture on the side of the staircase that descends from the Bikeway to playground areas along Spy Pond. For these projects, Frank prefers to work alone and unassisted; he engages with the landscape and materials in a meditative process.



Frank artfully arranged natural wood to form shapes which resemble water flowing down the hillside and curling into small pools; the title of this work is "CURRENT." With occasional mainte-

Frank Vasello at the Ottoson School

During his time in Arlington, Frank made 3 visits to meet with students in the after-school Art Clubs at the Ottoson Middle School. He showed examples of his own work, of other environmental art and sculpture inspired by nature, and then constructed a sculpture with students in the woods behind the school.

Many thanks to Dave Ardito and the Ottoson teachers for supporting this project: Kayla McKenna, Polly Ford and Alecia Serafini. And many thanks to the 25 students who joined Frank for a magical experience creating art in nature.













2017 TOWN DAY

