



2026  
to  
2027

# Hastings

## Downtown Sculpture Tour

Presented by  
The Hastings Downtown Development Authority  
& Thornapple Arts Council



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The Downtown Sculpture Tour is  
proudly brought to you by the  
Downtown Development Authority.



Downtown  
**Hastings**  
*on the Thornapple*

## **It started with one sculpture.**

In 2009, as the Hastings Downtown Development Authority (DDA) created a quiet rest area behind City Hall, they leased a single piece from the Midwest Sculpture Initiative (MSI). Before the six-month lease was even up, a community member purchased the sculpture and donated it to the City—turning a temporary installation into something permanent.

That moment sparked something bigger.

In 2010, the DDA expanded the idea into the first Downtown Sculpture Exhibit, bringing in 11 leased pieces from MSI. Community excitement built quickly, and before the exhibit was even installed, additional sculptures were added. By the end of the year, the collection had grown to 17.

From there, the exhibit continued to grow—year after year—both in size and in impact. Donations from the DeCamp Family and employees of Flexfab LLC helped establish permanent homes for two sculptures: Avian Ascent by Toni Lucadello along the Hastings Riverwalk, and Radiolaria by John W. Parker at the entrance to the Hastings Spray Plaza. Completed in 2013, the Spray Plaza—funded largely through private donations—stands as a lasting symbol of what community-driven investment in public art can achieve.

Today, the exhibit is more than a collection of sculptures. It's a reason people gather, explore, and connect. Visitors travel from across the region and beyond, often surprised to find a display of this scale in a community our size. For many, a walk through downtown Hastings has become a tradition—an easy, free way to experience art together.

The Downtown Sculpture Exhibit has also become a model for placemaking, showing how art can shape not just a space, but a sense of pride, identity, and economic vitality.

Thank you for being part of the story. We hope you'll return often to experience the exhibit and explore Hastings on the Thornapple.

If you are interested in purchasing a sculpture, contact the City of Hastings Community Development Department to make further arrangements.

269.945.2468

[www.downtownhastings.com](http://www.downtownhastings.com)

Sculptures may be purchased and gifted to the City of Hastings in support of the arts or in memory of a loved one for permanent display.

*Leased sculptures provided by  
Midwest Sculpture Initiative*

[www.msisculpture.com](http://www.msisculpture.com)



*Flatlanders Sculpture Supply is a full-service sculpture resource available to construct artworks for many public and private projects, in addition to numerous other services related to sculpture; there is Flatlanders Art Galleries, featuring two galleries, a fine craft gallery and an outdoor sculpture park.*

*Additionally, the Midwest Sculpture Initiative (MSI) offers outdoor sculpture exhibits throughout Michigan, Ohio and Indiana, as a way to promote economic development.*

*Flatlanders and MSI are located 1 ½ miles east of Blissfield MI, at 11993 East US Highway 223. For more information visit our websites:*

# WELCOME

## **How to Use This Guide**

Exploring the Downtown Hastings Sculpture Exhibit is meant to be easy, interactive, and entirely your own.

## **Start with the Map**

View the full sculpture map in the middle of this book and plan your route through downtown.

## **Find Each Sculpture**

Each piece is labeled with a number that matches both the map and the sculptures in this booklet.

## **Learn the Story**

Flip to the corresponding page to read about the artist, materials, and inspiration behind each sculpture.

## **Make It Your Own**

You'll find a notes section on each sculpture page. Use it to jot down your thoughts, favorites, or even sketch what you see. There are no wrong answers here (art critics are optional).

## **Come Back Again**

Every visit can be a new experience. Different light, different seasons, different perspectives.

# JAZZ

#1

Price  
\$9,000

MICHAEL MAGNOTTA

East Lansing, MI

Material | Stainless & Mild Steel

Weight | 100 lbs

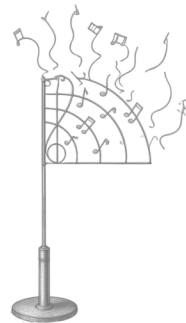
"As a sculptor, privileged to have my work in the public sphere, I feel a responsibility to engage the viewer and provide a positive visual presence to the community.

My journey in the arts began some 35 years ago in photography. Architectural studies broadened my artistic horizons as I learned how the integration of materials in a thoughtful design impacts the environment.

In a transition from architecture to sculpture, I found expression in creating art from industrial remnants and cast-offs. With inspiration from the masters of the genre, my work arises from my experiences and things I love - jazz, space, nature, mankind, and beauty in all its manifestations. The Japanese aesthetic of wabi-sabi, beauty in the imperfect and the natural time-worn patina, also resonates in my art.

My sculptures typically begin with a trip to the metal yard. There, among the industrial detritus, I gather my palette, much as a painter chooses their paints. From the shapes and textures I rescue, a conversation takes place - a visual conversation - that results in the three dimensional work comprising my sculptures."

## NOTES



# SEEKER

# 2

Price  
\$9,000

DW MARTIN

Edinboro, PA

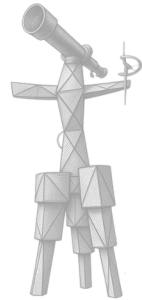
Material | Fabricated Steel, Oil Base Enamels

Dimensions | 131"x 58" x 52"

"My initial interest and departure point comes from observations of electrical pylons that carry high voltage power lines across the land. There are two main elements that have captivated my creative urges and have led to the sculptures that I produce.

It has been my desire to take a static structure that is common in our daily visual vocabulary and bring to it life, in hopes of changing our visual perception of an otherwise mundane object. I have continued to investigate movement in the forms pushing the inanimate into animate, perhaps anthropomorphism. I proceed by developing a surface that emits a visual noise using line, color and the physical mark."

## NOTES



# HARP # 2

# 3

Price  
\$9,000

MIKE SOHIKIAN

Genoa, OH

Material | Steel & Concrete

Dimensions | 8' x 7' x 3'

Mike Sohikian, a retired ironworker has been a member of the Bridge and Structural Ironworkers Local 55 for 37 years. He has had a lifetime of love and appreciation for art, but didn't begin his art career until 1995. Since then he has garnered acclaim and numerous prestigious awards and recognition for his paintings and sculptures.

Sohikian is best known for taking salvaged steel to new heights with impressive and innovative concepts. He assembles industrial materials as well as reworks the materials into fascinating forms. Within the past thirteen years his paintings and sculpture work has been published in news articles and numerous art publications, most noteworthy is inclusion of his work in four of Schiffer Publishing Collectors Editions, most recently The Sculpture Reference (Illustrated) by Arthur Williams, 2005. His paintings and sculptures are in over 400 art collections nationwide.

## NOTES



# BLUE ZIG ZAG

# 4

Price  
\$9,500

KENNETH M THOMPSON

Blissfield, MI

Material | Painted Steel & Vinyl Wrap

Dimensions | 1'6" x 1'6" x 10'

"I have always had a fascination with buildings and bridges, as well as, the columns, posts, beams and arches that support them. I come to this world from a tradition of craftsmanship. I prefer to use materials that convey strength. I have always felt that good art should be well made and that there is no excuse for poor craftsmanship. I see each sculpture as a 'clean sheet of paper' that presents new opportunities to discover solutions. Beyond content and suitability, my sculpture concentrates on the fundamental issues of form and how negative space defines it, as well as, the techniques employed to create it."

Ken Thompson holds a Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts from Siena Heights University, a Master of Liberal Studies in Sculpture from the University of Toledo and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in painting and printmaking from Siena Heights College (University), Adrian, Michigan. Ken has been making sculpture since 1978 out of a former car dealership now turned studio in Blissfield, Michigan. From this facility, he and his assistants also operate Flatlanders Sculpture Supply & Art Galleries and the Midwest Sculpture Initiative. Ken is well versed in bronze casting and metal fabrication but prefers stone carving.

## NOTES



# DANDELIONS

# 5

Price  
\$3,000

ROBERT GEORGIC

Belleville, MI

Material | Metal

Dimensions | 6' x 5' x 75"

"I don't have one - I forge things out of metal - people either like them or they don't what more is there to say I could make up something, but that seems a waste of time. Thank you."

Mr. Georgic in his home-based metals shop and art studio, located in Belleville, Michigan. Summer themes like flowers, animals and insects are a recurring theme for Georgic.

## NOTES



# LUMENFLY

# 6

Price  
\$14,000

## KIRK SEESE

Lutherville Timonium, MD

**Material** | Upcycled fire extinguisher tanks, tractor headlight, Plasma cut steel wings, CNC cut colored acrylic, industrial plastic drum painted copper  
**Dimensions** | 6' x 3' x 5'

Kirk Seese is a lifetime visual artist, specializing in large scale murals and public sculpture. From facilitating community mural projects using volunteers of all ages, to designing multi-million-dollar indoor climbing gyms for franchisees, Kirk offers a wide range of expertise in design, fabrication, delivery and installation of winning artworks across the nation, with public sculpture and murals currently located in 37 states and British Columbia, Canada.

Open love letter to public art:

What I love about you, public art, is that you are meant for everyone.

You require no entry fee, cover charge or special invitation.

Set free from the galleries, museums, and private homes of the past.

You're out there, in the wild, unapologetic, yet vulnerable, and for everyone to see.

You must be strong, durable, able to withstand all types of weather, public scrutiny, and the test of time.

You can be interactive, kinetic or stationary, and come in so many forms.

In all shapes and sizes.

You invite discussion and bring the world of visual arts to people's everyday lives.

For all these reasons and many more, I will adore you for the rest of my life!

## NOTES



# BEST OLD BIKE FRIENDS

# 7

Price  
\$4,700

JENNIFER MEYER

Lansing, MI

Material | Found Objects

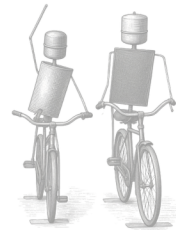
Dimensions | 6'7" x 5'0 x 6'0

"Each of my sculptures are a reincarnation of many purposeful past lives. My approach in creating public art is to invite the viewer to reflect upon what we consider discards and to perhaps be more thoughtful about personal reuse.

My work with found objects as a sculptor is the same as my work with clients as a licensed clinical professional counselor. Just because something or someone has been used, discarded, abandoned or rejected does not mean that there is no longer any potential or value. Often what is needed for recovery is a little time and attention to construct a new perspective so that a renewal may emerge. This is my life's work with objects and with humans.

My goal is to continue this experience until I have no breath left."

## NOTES



# THINKING MAN

# 8

Price  
\$20,000

DAVE TONEGATTO

Westland, MI

Material | Metal

Dimensions | 5' x 4' x 10'

"Thinking Man is a self portrait steel sculpture. I envisioned it while feeling trapped in the responsibilities of a physical world although my thoughts and emotions seemed to be flowing out in a different direction than the cage of a routine that I subconsciously created. I wondered if my thoughts were real, I started to realize my thought forms were in fact real and just as important or even more so than anything in the physical world. Thinking Man is an attempt in trying to discover the answer to my questions."

## NOTES



# PETOSKEY

#9

**JOE KRAJKIEWCZ**

Grandville, MI

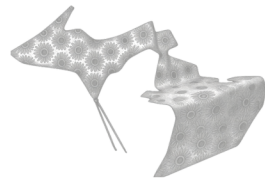
**Material | 7 GA Steel**

**Weight | 100 lbs**

"My passion for creating art is inspired by the rugged majesty found in America's forests and wildlife. As an artist and outdoorsman, sculpture provides a medium to share my experiences with others. Working with steel allows me to emulate nature's enduring strength in each individual sculpture. Through the fabrication process, I permanently capture form and movement. Each piece is painted from a bold color palette to heighten one's visual awareness and stimulate the imagination. I aspire to convey elements of modern art and rustic décor in each sculpture."

Generously donated to the City of Hastings in memory of Richard A. Beduhn by the Richard A. and Kathleen S. Beduhn Trust. September 2015

## NOTES



# FIRST FLIGHT

#10

RUTH GEE

Hastings, MI

Material | Bronze

Weight | 150 lbs

First Flight represents the metamorphosis we undergo when trying new things. We never know what we are capable of. Be brave, take flight.

Generously donated to the City of Hastings in honor of Mayor Bob May by James Kwak, Hastings Rotary Club, Bosley Pharmacy, Hastings Kiwanis Club, and the Downtown Development Authority. July 2013

## NOTES



# FORGET ME NEVER

#11

PAM REITHMEIER

Monclova, OH

Material | Steel

Weight | 200 lbs

"I love to see people interact with my sculptures. Whether it is a nod of the head, a smile, or having their picture taken with my pieces; it does not matter as long as there is a connection in some way between the sculpture and the viewer. I have found I am drawn to making sculptures inspired by nature. I particularly enjoy the permanency and strength of steel and the mental and physical challenges that come with working in this medium."

Generously donated to the  
City of Hastings by Al and Pam Jarvis. August 2017

## NOTES



# TWISTED MELODY

#12

ALEX MENDEZ

Decatur, IN

Material | Steel

Weight | 155 lbs

Alex Mendez was born in the rural town of Decatur, Indiana. Alex's background is in music. Having studied classical methods for guitar, he continues to this day as a working musician. This musical background has influenced his journey into metal sculpture. Alex has been drawn to abstract forms because he believes this provides a way to portray what a musician might visualize in sculptured art.

"Music and love please a person the most together, they banish cares and torments of the soul."

Generously donated to the City of Hastings by Dave and Jo Carr.

## NOTES



# GAZE II

#13

JAMES L. OLESON, JR.

Brooksville, FL

Material | Mixed Steel

Weight | 600 lbs

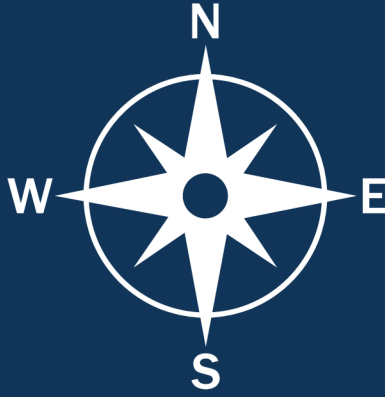
"The art of sculpture is to take something considered useless or broken and give it a new life and chance to be a part of something bigger than it ever was. I take an inanimate congregation of objects and put them together in a way that gives them an actual presence that you can feel and touch. Not only can you touch these inanimate objects but they can touch you back. They visually speak to you, invoking real emotions. When this almost unexplainable connection is happening, the material thought to be useless or broken comes to life. That connection between you and my creations and the emotions that take place gives me much excitement and drives me to create with great passion."

Generously donated to the City of Hastings by the DeCamp Family Foundation.  
September 2013

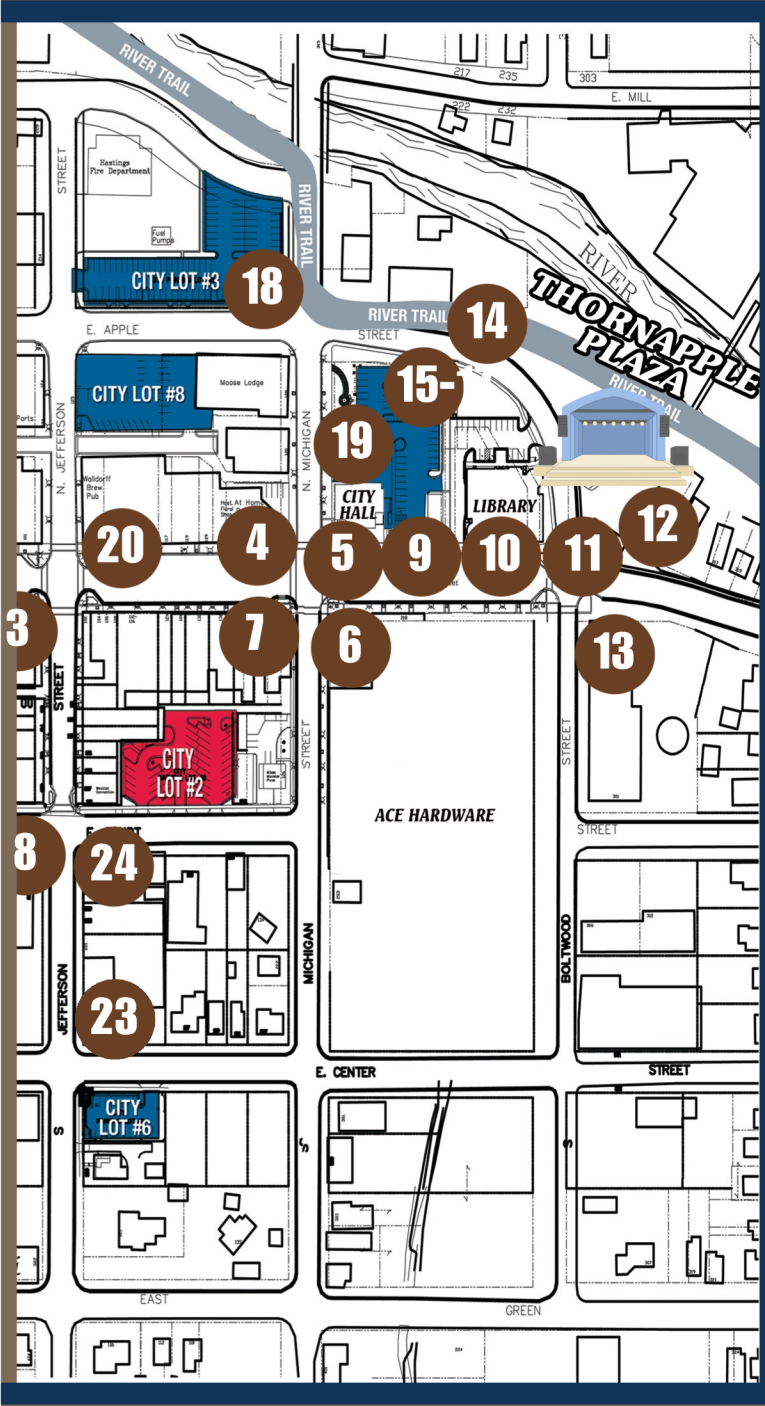
## NOTES



# PARKING



SCULPTURE  
LOCATIONS



# A DREAM TAKES FLIGHT

**#14**

Inspired by:  
**STUART PADNOS**

**JUAN LUNA & JAMES MOORE**

Hastings, MI

**Material | Stainless Steel & Iron**

**Weight | 150 lbs**

"Our mentor teaches us that even in scrap there lies a thing of beauty."

Generously donated to the City of Hastings by Louis Padnos Iron & Metal  
Company, September 2010

## NOTES



# BOOKISH BUTTERFLY FRIENDLY FROG DANCING DRAGONFLY

#15  
#16  
#17

## ANDERSON'S METAL SCULPTURE

Cedar Springs, MI

Material | Copper, Brass, and Glass

Weight | Between 25-35 lbs each

"My finished product is always an attempt to balance the sometimes extreme exaggeration I give to God's natural forms with surface patinas and tones subtle enough to encourage the viewer to never tire of its presence."

Generously donated to the Hastings Public Library by the Friends of the Library and the Thornapple Garden Club. May 2010

### NOTES



# AVIAN ASCENT

#18

TONILUCADELLO

Fostoria, OH

Material | Painted Steel

Weight | 170 lbs

"My motivation for creating sculptures and wall designs has been two-fold: First, most work is based on science concepts ranging from biology to theoretical physics, with the intent that the science-related titles of the art would stimulate discussion and exploration, perhaps leading to new perspectives and innovations. Second, I want the public to appreciate and understand the subject, form, and content behind a work of art even though they may not like a particular work."

Generously donated to the City of Hastings by the DeCamp Family  
(in recognition of the company's 50th anniversary – Flexfab LLC 1961-2011).  
July 2010

## NOTES



# REFLECTIVE MOMENTS

#19

RUTH GEE

Hastings, MI

Material | Bronze

Weight | 300 lbs

“Whatever is true, honest, just, pure, lovely, admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think on these things.’ (Philippians 4:8). These are the words that have been the basis for my artwork over the years.”

Generously donated to the City of Hastings by  
Thomas L. Johnson and the Downtown Development Authority. July 2010

## NOTES



# THE GATHERER

# 20

BRENT HARRIS

Kalamazoo, MI

Material | Bronze

Weight | 300 lbs

"We are defined by nature, and that mark provides shapes and patterns that repeat the natural world into our bodies and our subconscious. The forms exist in us as a nautical spiral in the curve of an ear, the rolling hills of our spine, or in the root-like structures of our nerves and vasculature. My goal as an artist is to listen to, and somehow speak these truths through my hands and into the metal."

Generously donated to the City of Hastings by James Kwak, cofounder of Guidewire Software, friend of Hastings Mutual Insurance Company.  
March 2013

## NOTES



# THE TREE OF LIFE

# 21

RICHARD MORGAN

Wauseon, OH

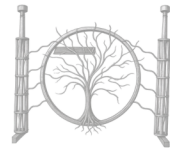
Material | Steel & Found Objects

Weight | 400 lbs

"Being able to create something out of nothing, and making people happy... is the best thing about being an artist."

Generously donated to the City of Hastings by the Barry County Community Foundation.  
February 2021

## NOTES



# STONE HARP

#22

CALVIN BABICH

Toledo, OH

Material | Limestone

Weight | 1,000 lbs

"Stone has an undeniable presence and I have a passion for stone sculpture using any type of stone and any type of treatment from carving with great detail to fabrications with rocks carved by nature."

Generously donated to the City of Hastings by the Thornapple Arts Council and its supporters for all of Barry County to enjoy. June 2013

## NOTES



# STORM

# 23

ROBERT R. GARCIA

Toldeo, OH

Material | Painted Steel

Weight | 190 lbs

"I have merged painting and sculpture with aspects of nature and technology to allow me a newly realized and expanded freedom of artistic form."

Generously donated to the City of Hastings by  
Emily and Dave Jasperse Bosley Pharmacy  
April 2010

## NOTES



# DAPHNE AND THE 4 WINDS

# 24

MIKE SOHIKIAN

Genoa, OH

Material | Steel

Weight | 1,000 lbs

"I can say things with colors and shapes that I can't say any other way. Art is what your feelings sound like and should be for the people."

Generously donated to the City of Hastings by Emily Jasperse  
in memory of Dave Jasperse.  
May 2018

NOTES



# TRINITY

# 25

DOUGLAS M. GRUIZENGA

Interlochen, MI

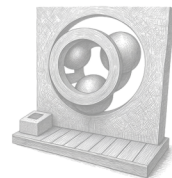
Material | Welded Aluminum & Stainless Steel

Weight | 400 lbs

"The sculptures that I produce are an attempt to study the absolutes and variables of form and function. Each piece has a basis in actual objects that I have found to be visually stimulating I then vary the composition and relationships between design elements, in an effort to understand the universal truths and variables of composition and function. Every viewer brings with them, individual experience and understanding. It is my hope that my sculpture will be pleasing to the eye, without limiting the observer's relative ability to interpret the subject matter involved. It is an honor to have even one person take the time to view an object that I have created. It is amazing to think that an indelible image of that event is recorded forever in their mind."

Generously donated to the City of Hastings  
by Doug and Margaret DeCamp.  
July 2014

## NOTES



# SUMMER SOLSTICE

# 26

PAMELA REITHMEIER

Monclova, OH

Material | Painted

Weight | 155 lbs

"I have found I am drawn to making sculptures using objects from nature. Taking a flat piece of steel and cutting and bending it into a sculpture is like freezing a moment in time so it can be revisited and savored over and over again."

Generously donated to the citizens of Hastings  
by Richard & Donna Tobias of Dick's Barber Shop.  
June 2010

NOTES



# ENLIGHTENMENT

#27

TERRY L. HEWLETT

Charlotte, MI

Material | Aluminum and Painted Steel

Weight | 250 lbs

"This piece is abstract art and is a different type of medium for many to relate to. One wing is black and represents darkness and ignorance, while the other wing, done in Massey Ferguson red, represents inspiration and new knowledge. The ring in the center represents the catalyst for the 'Enlightenment' !"

Generously donated to the City of Hastings  
by the Thornapple Arts Council and its supporters for all of Barry County to enjoy.  
June 2013

## NOTES



# BUCK

# 28

JONATHAN BOWLING

Greenville, NC

Material | Repurposed Steel

Weight | 300 lbs

"For the past 12 years, I have been focused on public art, largely farm animals. These pieces are made with the intention of staying outdoors in a public area without the need for extensive maintenance. The materials I use are often from the turn of the last century, which I feel is appropriate for depicting animals so intertwined with our agrarian past. Repurposed steel provides a sound structure which allows me to work on a scale that lends itself to public spaces."

Generously donated to the City of Hastings by English Market, LLC.  
In honor of Lily, Nolan, Zac, Caden, Hadley, and Henry.  
October 2020

## NOTES



# KINDERBELLS

# 29

TOM KAUFMANN

Traverse City, MI

Material | Powder Coated Steel

Weight | 350 lbs

Tom's Kinderbells sculpture combines his passions for music and recycling; the bells are made from the tops of condemned industrial pressurized gas tanks. The brightly colored bells and green stand are meant to give the impression of a flower garden.

Generously donated to the City of Hastings by the artist, Tom Kaufmann  
2020

## NOTES



# RADIOLARIA

# 30

JOHN W. PARKER

Glenside, PA

Material | Steel Plate

Weight | 2,000 lbs

"My sculptures have evolved out of lifelong interest in nature. I have combined nature with steel, in giving heavy industrial materials a living, animated presence."

Generously donated to the City of Hastings by Flexfab LLC and its employees  
(in recognition of the company's  
50th anniversary).  
October 2011

## NOTES



# MY RESCUE

#31

## MARTHA CARES

Sawyer, MI

Material | Powder Coated Steel

Weight | 200 lbs

"The inspiration for My Rescue is my Poppy, a rescue dog from Save-A-Stray of St. Joseph, Michigan! I was inspired and moved by the dedication and commitment of the wonderful volunteers."

Generously donated to the City of Hastings by  
Emily and Dave Jasperse of Bosley Pharmacy.  
May 2014

### NOTES



# TRIUMPH

#32

MIKE SOHIKIAN

Genoa, OH

Material | Steel, Stone

Weight | 1,000 lbs

“During my 40-plus years as a bridge and structural ironworker, as well as my second career as an artist, I’ve relied on art as a tool for communication. In ironwork, most of the communication was done by architectural drawings, and detailed sketches in most cases, it was the only source of communication. My art speaks for me in the same way. It’s my way of translating a word, a sound or a feeling into a visual point to communicate and express myself.”

Generously donated to the City of Hastings  
by Walgreens and Geenen DeKock Group 1, LLC

## NOTES



# NOTES:

THERE'S ALWAYS MORE  
TO DISCOVER

[WWW.DOWNTOWNHASTINGS.COM](http://WWW.DOWNTOWNHASTINGS.COM)

