



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

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Community Foundation commissions new art sculpture for downtown Lansing roundabout, wants public input

LANSING, MICH. – After announcing in June a new public art project to install a sculpture in the roundabout one block from the State Capitol, the [Community Foundation](#) is asking Lansing residents to [give feedback online](#) on the four sculpture finalists chosen by a committee of artists and placemaking professionals.

In a campaign called *Penny For Your Thoughts*, people can visit the Foundation’s website October 12-31, 2018 to view each of the finalists and submit feedback on one, several, or all of the sculpture renderings.

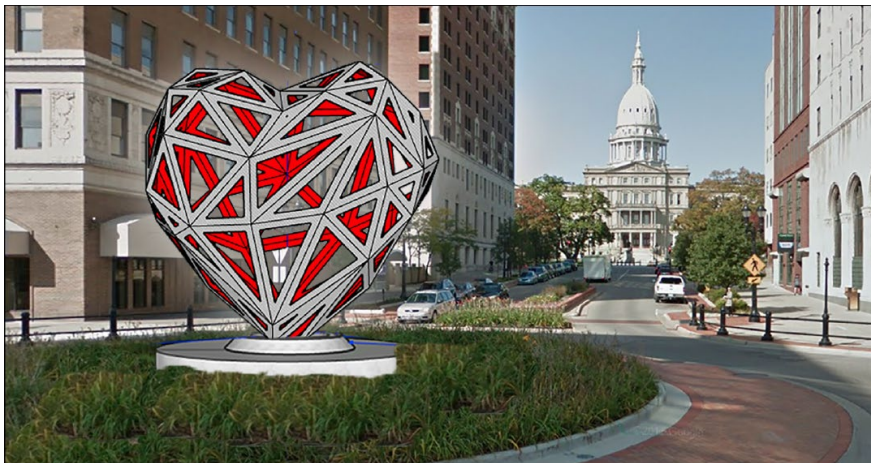
“The roundabout sculpture will live in the core of our city, standing for all those who live, work and visit here,” said Laurie Baumer, executive vice president of the Community Foundation and a member of the selection committee. “It is meant to represent Lansing, so we want to hear from its people as to whether they think the finalists depict the unique character of our city.”

Funding for the sculpture comes from the Foundation’s leadership fund, specially set aside by the Board of Trustees to bring projects and development to the region that will enhance overlooked or forgotten spaces. It is separate from the Foundation’s regular grantmaking funds.

After October 31, the committee will then review public input as they determine the chosen sculpture to install in the roundabout next spring.

Sculpture Finalists

#LoveLansing: A “Low-Poly Open Heart” Sculpture



The “Low-Poly Open Heart” is designed by artist [m.l. duffy](#) and has similar iterations in cities throughout the United States. Describing his work, duffy said “the soft sentiments of endearment, love, inclusion, and home are contrasted by the strong nature of the imaginative design, process, and materials used; this is love on an industrial scale, fitting for such a legendary City of Industry.”

Flame



Designed by [James Gabbert](#), *Flame* consists of two circles representing a unity between the two peninsulas of Michigan and flames emitted from the circles. Gabbert said, “the Flame represents our democratic republic by suggesting the shape of the Capital building dome. The two rings holding the flame represent the two parts of Michigan: separate but close, sharing the same spirit/flame, making each other stronger. The circles have many other meanings, among the most relevant are: unity, equality, motion, and continuity.”

Star Born



Star Born was designed by Lansing locals, David Such and Fred Hammond. David said, “strength, energy and resilience are all adjectives I would use to describe a star and also the words I would use to describe the people of and the place called Lansing. Made in Lansing. By Lansing. For Lansing. *Star Born* will serve as a simple artistic expression, reflecting the complexities of life, in this very special place we call home.”

Welcoming Hands



Welcoming Hands is designed by artist [Mark Horst](#) and features steel rod. Horst said, “the Lansing Roundabout Sculpture represents an opportunity to connect the Capital Area cityscape to the hearts of residents and visitors. This location in particular actually frames the Capital and opens a conversation with some of Lansing’s key architecture. For this reason, the sculpture I propose is looked through as much as looked at; it responds to and changes with its surroundings.”

The Community Foundation is passionate about creating vibrant, thriving communities throughout the Capital Region. The Foundation works with donors to meet their unique charitable goals, supports area nonprofits with grants and coaching and leads innovative projects that drive community growth. The Community Foundation (also known as the Capital Region Community Foundation) is a tax-exempt public charity that serves the charitable needs and enhances the quality of life for people in Ingham, Clinton and Eaton counties.