



Art on Display in the Library

Exterior

Sidewalk Poetry

The Poetic Foot by Alicia Berneche

Snowflakes by Susan Gundlach

Clark Street Beach by Charlotte Hart

Research by Ethan Plaut

Poem by Toby Sachs

Completed with funds from the Washington National Tax Increment Financing District

Organized by the City of Evanston's Public Arts Committee and the Evanston Public Library Board of Directors, this city wide poetry contest held in 2010, received 328 entries from residents. Ultimately, a jury of Evanston residents, which ranged from an Evanston Township High School student to professors of Theater and Poetry at Northwestern University, choose five poems to represent the literary talent within the community and be featured on the walkway into the library.

Richard Hunt (American b.1935)

Bookends, 1997

Stainless steel

Purchased with funds from the Edward Johnson Endowment Fund

Location: Western facade

These two stainless steel sculptures by nationally acclaimed Chicago artist Richard Hunt sit atop two pillars on the west facade of the building. The abstract work represents the evolution of the storage

of information in western culture. One side represents the shape of a scroll and an open book, while the other side represents modern technology with the image of a computer screen and antenna.

First Floor

Michele Oka Doner (American b.1945)

Book Leaves

Cast bronze in terrazzo

Commissioned with funds from the City of Evanston Public Art Program

Location: 1st floor, lobby

This art flooring installation consists of 65 flat cast bronze sculptures embedded in a black terrazzo matrix. Most of the images are botanical — leaves, twigs, seeds, and pollen from trees in the Evanston area. The geometric shapes are abstracts based on the stone piers on the exterior of the building. The individual bronzes may be enjoyed while one walks upon the floor, or the entire piece may be observed from the balcony or staircase.

Ralph Helmick (American b.1952) and Stuart Schechter (American b.1958)

Ghost Writer, 1994

Cast metal and stainless metal

Commissioned with funds from the City of Evanston Public Art Program

Location: Grand Staircase

This suspended sculpture consists of 2500 separately cast aluminum elements suspended on 900 wires. There are three segments to the composition. A head composed of over 1500 cast aluminum letters. The head is both androgynous and a composite of world racial and ethnic types. The second segment is a spiral passing through the center of the piece. It is a metaphor for imagination and creativity. The third segment is the ambient symbols floating throughout the piece. Within the piece there is historical world sculpture imagery, as well as intentional words. There are several Evanston images, including leaves of trees that grow in this area, the Grosse Pointe Lighthouse, and a map of the community. Some of the images were suggested by Evanston residents and by people involved in the library building project. All of the suspended elements were first fabricated in wood or clay and then cast in aluminum by a commercial foundry. The head began as a traditional plaster sculpture, which was then laser-scanned into a three dimensional computer modeling program. Drawing programs were used to assist in the creation of the spiral and the placement of the ambient

elements. While the sculpture could have been created without computer technology, that technology greatly facilitated composition and measurement. Misters Helmick and Schechter are from Massachusetts.

Stained Glass

Commissioned by the City of Evanston

Location: 1st floor

For Endless Trees is an example of contemporary work in the American Arts and Crafts tradition. Fusing metal and dichroic glass, Precious designed a window that allows both light and air to be filtered through to create dynamic color shifts and continuous visual interest.

Eric Rohmann

Discover New Worlds

Oil on canvas

34.25"x11"

Purchased with funds from the Edward Johnson Endowment Fund

9.2003

Location: Children's, Art Garden

Eric Rohmann, an Illinois native, has exhibited across the Midwest and has work in collections throughout the United States and Europe. He has written and illustrated four children's books, two of which hold Caldecott awards and honors.

Accompanying Discover New Worlds

Preliminary pencil and watercolor sketches of the final piece.

Peggy MacNamara (American)

Metamorphosis

Watercolor on Paper

30"x20"

Purchased with funds from the Edward Johnson Endowment Fund

Location: Children's, Family Reading Room

Peggy MacNamara is a Chicago based artist who specializes in hyperrealism, often depicting insects and animals. MacNamara is an in-house artist at the Field Museum. In the work, Metamorphosis, MacNamara illustrates various stages in the life cycle of butterflies and moths.

Brian Pinkney (American b. 1961)

"A Strong Breeze Shook the Tree..."

Oil on board

16"x10"

Purchased with funds from the Edward Johnson Endowment Fund

Location: Children's, Art Garden

Originally published in the storybook Max Found Two Sticks, this oil reproduction depicts the main character, Max, watching the two sticks swirl in the breeze. Pinkney is an internationally known illustrator, who has won many awards, such as the Coretta Scott King Book Award.

Kristina Swarner (American b. 1965)

She Told You All The Stories In the World from the book Before You Were Born, 2005

Linocut with watercolor, gouache, and colored pencil on paper

11"x21"

Purchased with funds from the Edward Johnson Endowment Fund

Location: Children's, Art Garden

Kristina Swarner is a Chicago based artist and illustrator.

Alejandro Romero (Mexican b.1948) & Peter Exley (British b.1964)

Kinderspring, 2007

Mixed media mosaic

Location: Children's Room

Created by Chicago based artist Alejandro Romero, this interactive, three dimensional mosaic features colorful ceramic tiles, various glass, bronze, and ceramic items, along with blinking lights. Romero is a well known artist, who is most known for his paintings and murals that blend European expressionism with pre-Colombian themes and motifs.

Edward Martinez (Argentine)

Too Many Tamales from the the book Too Many Tamales, 1992

Oil on canvas

Location: Children's, Art Garden

Edward Martinez is a portrait artist and illustrator who has worked on many classic covers such as Little Women and Gone with the Wind. Too Many Tamales, which accompanies Gary Soto's book of the same title, is a holiday favorite and has been celebrated across the United States.

Pierre-Auguste Renoir (French 1848-1919)

Head of Coco, 1908

Bronze on marble base

10 $\frac{3}{4}$ "x7 $\frac{5}{8}$ " x 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

Reproduction by Alva Studios, Inc.1958

Location: Children's

The small ceramic reproduction depicts Renoir's youngest son, Claude 'Coco' Renoir (1901-1969) and was meant to be viewed in the family's private collection. The Library holds this reproduction from Alva Studios, Inc., a well known museum quality reproduction studio.

Brendan Wenzel (American b.1981)

Peregrines Over Evanston, 2018

Mixed media collage

11"x14 $\frac{1}{4}$ "

Gift of the Artist

Location: Children's, Art Garden

Brendan Wenzel is a Caldecott award winning Brooklyn based illustrator whose work appears internationally in storybooks and magazines. This piece was created for the library to celebrate the peregrine falcons who nest here annually.

Beverly Stucker Precious (American b.1952)

For Endless Trees, 1994

Stained Glass

Dimensions Needed

Commissioned by the City of Evanston

Location: 1st floor

For Endless Trees is an example of contemporary work in the American Arts and Crafts tradition. Fusing metal and dichroic glass, Precious designed a window that allows both light and air to be filtered through to create dynamic color shifts and continuous visual interest.

George Suyeoka (American 1926-2015)

Momotaro from the book Urashima Taro, 1973

Marker and watercolor on paper

Gift of the Suyeoka Family in memory of George Suyeoka

Location: Children's, Art Garden

George Suyeoka was a well known artist and illustrator based in Evanston. He illustrated for commercial companies, as well as many storybooks, often creating images to accompany Japanese folktales. Suyeoka was a prolific artist with a practice that spanned from illustration and printmaking to sculpture and bronzework.

Elisha Cooper (American b. 1971)

Big Cat, Little Cat from the book Big Cat, Little Cat, 2017

Serigraph print

97/100

Location: Children's, Art Garden

Elisha Cooper is an author and illustrator of many children's books. Cooper works primarily in printmaking and painting.

Adams was a modernist painter who specialized in the American street scene genre, his works depict Chicago and Evanston from 1931 thru 1977. Adams attended the School of the Art Institute and resided in Evanston, IL.

Second Floor Landing

Richard LaLonde (American b.1950)

World View, 1993

Fused glass on ceramic

Gift of Nancy and Philip Kotler

Location: 2nd floor landing

LaLonde is a contemporary artist whose practice focuses heavily on colorful, narrative fused glass murals. This piece, as stated by the artist, presents images which are individually interpreted by the viewer, but can be loosely viewed as representative of the past, present, and future.

Evanston Children

Untitled, 2018

Acrylic paint on acrylic

Gift of the Evanston Chamber of Commerce

Location: 2nd floor landing

Created under the direction of the One River School of Art & Design at the Evanston Chamber Artisan SummerFest, children painted scenes of everyday life in Evanston.

Second Floor

Giovanni Maria Benzoni (Italian, 1809-1873)

Innocence Guarded by Faithfulness, 1868

Marble

Unknown Provenance

Location: 2nd floor, Evanstoniana Room

Mystery surrounds this interesting piece. It was found under the front steps of the 1908 library building when that building was being demolished in 1960 and no one knew how or when it was placed there. This marble sculpture from 1868 depicts a young girl, with her beloved dog, who falls

asleep while creating a wreath. Among the flowers at her feet, a snake approaches but before it can bite her, the faithful dog stops it and tries to wake up the girl.

Ruth V. Weiner (American b.1923-2009)

Out of Antiquity, 1992

Porcelain

Gift of the Artist

Location: 2nd floor, west

Ruth V. Weiner was an Evanston resident who is best known for her practice in ceramic sculpture and assemblage.

On Out of Antiquity, Weiner writes, 'The porcelain books are a fantasy, a vision of distorted reality. The books, handbuilt of porcelain, undergo a metamorphosis when subjected to the ravages of fire, and emerge from the flames with singular configurations and distortions. They are books waiting to be read, but the viewer must impart his or her own thoughts and images onto the waiting pages. They each create a tableau with motion suspended, a scene of time momentarily stopped. The fantasy is that one is drawn into the reality and vitality of the book, but the pages can be turned only in the mind's eye.'

Nicholas Krushenick (American 1929-1999)

Untitled, 1969

Silk Screen Print

72"x41"

Gift of Frederick Dose

Location: 2nd floor, east

Krushenick was a modern abstract painter whose practice spans many art movements, including pop art and expressionism. Untitled is a silkscreen print that was originally created for the American Ballet Theater in 1965.

Third Floor

William-Adolphe Bouguereau (French 1825-1905)

A la Fontaine (At the Fountain), 1897

Oil on canvas

Digital reproduction by Christie's Fine Art Auctioneer, 1999

Location: 3rd floor, west

The original painting was donated to the library by Charles F. Grey, a prominent Evanston resident in 1925. The work sat prominently in the library until 1999, when it was auctioned through Christie's, it now resides in a private collection.

Beth Adler (American b.1955)

Peregrine Chick

Pencil, india ink, gesso on canvas

30"x22"

Gift of the Artist

3rd floor, west

Peregrine Chick, which depicts peregrine falcon eyes, represents the many generations of falcons hatched and raised at the library. Beth Adler is a Chicago based artist who works mainly in monoprinting.

Fourth Floor

Robert Burton Middaugh (American 1935-2011)

Severed Connections

Acrylic on canvas

30"x50"

Gift of Danielle & Victor Barcilon

Location: 4th floor

Middaugh was a Chicago based contemporary surrealist painter who often depicted cityscapes and landscapes.

Walter Burt Adams (American 1903-1990)

May First, 1952

Oil on canvas

29"x50"

Gift of Library Volunteers

Location: 4th floor

Adams was a modernist painter who specialized in the American street scene genre, his works depict Chicago and Evanston from 1931 thru 1977. Adams attended the School of the Art Institute and resided in Evanston, IL.

Herb Jackson (American b. 1945)

Jazz Time (for Romare Bearden), 1993

Acrylic on canvas

72"x72"

On loan from the collection of John F. Vail

Location: 4th floor, Administrative Offices

Herb Jackson is an abstract painter who is known for his large canvas works, as well as his print works using vitreography.

There are several other works from the collection of John F. Vail on the fourth floor on loan to the library.

Robert Crown Branch Library

Ruth Duckworth (German 1919-2009)

Untitled, 1973

Stone

Gift of Paul H. Leffmann, in memoriam of Theo H. Leffmann

Location: Robert Crown Branch Library

Duckworth was a German modernist sculptor who worked in ceramics, stone, bronze, amongst other materials. She lived and worked in Chicago from 1964 thru 2009 and her works can be found in many museums, including the Art Institute of Chicago.